



Launton C.E Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Paterson

Monday 16th March 2020.

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We would like to reassure you that we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Oxfordshire County Council.

What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance
- All school functions continue to run as normal, including Breakfast and Afterschool Care and the usual clubs, but NOT football training
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 7 days**:
 - a new, continuous cough and/or
 - a temperature (above 37.8°C)
- All scheduled football fixtures have been cancelled: we are responding to unavailability of other schools
- Educational visits, including Woodlands, remain under review
- We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a pupil becomes ill whilst at school, we will look after them away from other pupils and call parents to collect them; we are following the NHS and DfE guidance, updated daily
- We will continue to adhere to the following:
 - 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' for coughs and sneezes
 - Frequent and thorough handwashing with soap and water
 - Frequent disinfecting of hard surfaces and door handles
- Lessons and assemblies teach children about hygiene and help them to deal with anxiety

What we need you to do

- You **MUST** follow the advice from the NHS about what to do if you, your child or a member of your family feels ill. You can find this information here:
<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>
- If your child is **NOT** coming into school, you **MUST** tell us why by calling school on 01869 253692 and either speak to a member of the office staff or leave a message.

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via email
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we will contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- Check that your child has access to the school website, mathletics and Times Tables Rock Stars (for Year 3 and above) from home, and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure we're well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at some point)

What happens if the school has to close?

We will only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

- Alert parents to closure, via the School Life app and a post on our website
- Alert parents to when school will re-open, via the School Life app and a post on our website
- If there is a short -term closure, we will put work on the class pages of the website

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kindest regards,



Jane Paterson and the staff team