



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
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Friday 13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Coronavirus Update

As you are aware, the Government have issued further advice and guidance and have now moved the country to the Delay Stage of the Coronavirus Pandemic. That means schools should continue to stay open and that children should continue to attend school.

The new guidance states that anyone demonstrating the following symptoms should self- isolate for 7 days:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous (persistent) cough

We therefore request that should your child develop these symptoms, you keep them absent from school for this period. If your child is having to self- isolate, we are able to use the Y code for attendance to show that this is due to an unavoidable circumstance.

Current advice remains in place: no education setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and the workforce will be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to schools will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggests children are a lower risk group.

The Department for Education have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows if they have any worries or concerns.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

I would like to thank you in advance for your support regarding this matter over the coming weeks. These are unprecedented times for us all and therefore it is vital that everyone works together to manage the situation as best as we can.

Kind regards
Mrs McAleny

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