



Twyford C of E School

Church Street, Twyford, Buckingham, MK18 4EU

Telephone (01296) 730305 Email office@twyford.bucks.sch.uk

Headteacher – Mrs Judith Bloomfield

www.twyfordschool.org.uk

17th March 2020

Dear Parents

Updated Guidance

Following the announcement from the Government yesterday afternoon (16.03.2020), some of the guidance issued last week has now changed. If your child has a **new persistent cough or high temperature** they should now not come into school for **14 days**. Likewise, if **anyone** in the household is showing any of these symptoms then the **whole household** should **self-isolate for 14 days**.

If your child is absent from school, please keep in contact informing us of the situation and if any new people in your family are showing symptoms so that we can accurately record any absences in the register. If your household is self-isolating because someone in the family has the symptoms of Covid-19 then this will be an authorised absence. In addition, we ask that, if any adults, siblings or other family members have these symptoms please do not come onto the school site.

We will continue to contact parents of children who come to school with a persistent cough or fever and ask that you pick them up, including their siblings. Please help us follow this procedure and respect our judgement. If we ask you to collect your child, this will be an authorised absence.

We will also authorise absence for pupils who have a vulnerable person living in their household or the pupils themselves are vulnerable. If you feel that you need to keep your child at home because this situation applies to you please contact us.

Day to Day Safe Practice

We are still continuing to remind pupils and staff to wash their hands regularly (following the 20 second rule) and are ensuring that we are providing opportunities for this throughout the school day. Any other people who may enter the school are also asked to wash their hands.

As well as the normal cleaning routine, extra measures are also being put in place. Our cleaning contractors have changed the cleaning products they are using and extra daily cleaning of high contact areas is taking place (handles, surfaces, door pushes, taps etc).

We have taken measures within school to minimise the gathering of people. For example, assemblies will take place in classes rather than as a whole school.

Other Illnesses

If your child is unwell with another illness and not showing the symptoms of Covid-19 please treat this as you normally would. If you would not normally send them to school with these symptoms please do not send them in and contact the school to inform us of the reason for absence.



Changes to the School Diary

We are continuing to review and risk assess any planned activities on the school calendar that will involve a larger gathering of people or people from vulnerable groups. We are also introducing measures to limit the number of visitors who enter the school building. The following changes are now in place:

- Meetings of groups of people have either been cancelled or postponed (including whole school assemblies).
- Parents Evening at the end of term is cancelled. Instead, before the end of term we will be sending a written overview progress report home via email. We will endeavour to provide an opportunity for you to discuss this with your child's class teacher should you wish. Further details will follow about how this might happen as we know more information over the coming weeks.
- Mothers' Day Celebration for Nursery and Reception children is cancelled.
- Easter Service at St Mary's Church is cancelled.
- Friday Celebration Assembly in its current format is postponed until further notice. We will have weekly celebrations in a different format but parents will not be invited to attend.
- School Council fundraising event of 'Bake a Wish'/'Wear what you Wish' is postponed until later in the year.
- NSPCC assemblies and workshops planned for this week have been postponed until the autumn term.
- Parent volunteers have been contacted and asked not to come into school until further notice. We will miss their support greatly but thank them for their understanding during these unprecedented times.

Remote Learning and Staff Absence

If your child and household are self-isolating and due to the current pressures on teachers, I am afraid that we are unable to provide individual work for pupils who are at home. However, they can access 'Times Table Rock Stars', practise their number skills, write a story and spend time reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books. It is important to also exercise and there are lots of ideas on the following website: <https://www.gonoodle.com/>.

As reported in my letter last week, we are making plans to ensure we have provision in place to allow children to continue to learn at home should the school need to close. This is looking increasingly likely with the government saying "at the right time, in the right way". Further details about remote learning in this instance will follow if and when necessary.

If staff absence becomes an issue, we will do everything we can to remain open but may need to close if staffing falls below safe operational levels.

Any decisions we make will be guided by the DfE, the Government and Public Health England. Advice and guidance are changing rapidly but rest assured we will continue to communicate any changes with you as and when new information becomes available.

Yours sincerely



JUDITH BLOOMFIELD
Headteacher