

Deanery C.E. Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Jayne Lockett, BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH



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 are getting in touch to let you know what we are 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 at Deanery Church of England Primary School we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from The Government and Birmingham Local Authority.

What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we have been given
- All school business continues to run as normal, this includes Foxes before and after club, and after school clubs.
- 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
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by contacting the school office by 9am
- All sporting competitions led by Wilson Stuart Sports Partnership e.g gymnastics competition, have been cancelled and all school trips, events and activities outside of school to be cancelled until further notice – this includes; Mother's Day Services, Y3 class assembly, parent assemblies, visits, parent readers, cooking, Nursery Mother's Day, Easter Services and Book Fayre.

As you can appreciate this is a difficult decision but with the amount of genuine concern over the safety of our children; we feel to alleviate further distress this is the only clear decision to make.

- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

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Academy Status - A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. Company No. 07667168.

What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff

Staff are checking temperatures of children who report to be feeling unwell and their situation is monitored. Should a temperature over 37.8 degrees be detected, school will contact parents to collect their child.

Deanery School employ all of our cleaning staff who have continued to clean school to a very high standard, however, additional focus has been emphasized on the cleaning of those areas and surfaces that are touched regularly e.g door handles and desks.

We continue to remind children and staff to follow the guidance provided by the DfE on the importance of handwashing.

Posters are located around school with reminders of how to wash hands effectively and children are supported by teachers on a regular basis to wash appropriately and through school assemblies.

Hands are washed before lunch and at times throughout the day.

What we need you to do

- 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 is an unsettling 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 questions and concerns.
- 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)
- For children in years 1-6, check that your child has access to the Google Drive <https://drive.google.com/drive> from home, and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure we are well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at some point)
 - Children can sign in using their school email address with a 2 digit number prefix to access their year group folder (children will bring home their access information tonight)
 - Workbooks will be sent home with your child in the event of a school closure. These are home learning books and should be used by the children to complete work.
 - Nursery and Reception will also have a home learning book. Inside will be guidance for parents to support learning activities for the coming weeks.

What happens if the school has to close?

We will only close if we are either officially advised to do so or we do not have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

Post a message on the website and send emails and texts to parents to inform of the closure.

We will continue to provide updates on the website throughout the closure as necessary.

School re-opening will be communicated via the school website, emails and by text message.

During the period of closure, teachers will set work for children. This will be available by accessing Google Drive. Children can log in using their email address and access work from their year group folder. In addition, My Maths and TT Rockstars will continue to be set, and daily reading, spelling and times table is encouraged.

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.

Refunds

As you can appreciate we are working in an unprecedented climate and we will wait for guidance on the financial implications in the event of a school closure.

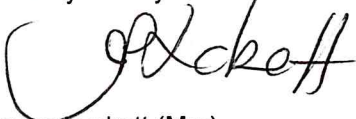
If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- 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

These are unprecedented times and we know you are worried about the impact this might have on our community. It is important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any worries or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Lockett', written over a large, stylized capital 'C'.

Jayne Lockett (Mrs)

Head Teacher