



Five Ways Primary School

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Staffs
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17th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) update following Prime Minister's news conference on 16th March 2020.

Following the Prime Minister's news conference yesterday afternoon, I am writing to update you on the latest official guidance and what we need to do to keep our community safe and the school running smoothly:

- anyone who has a new continuous cough and/or high temperature should be self-isolated for **14 days**. **All members of the household (siblings included) should also not leave the house for 14 days**. This has increased from the previous guidance of 7 days.
- **please do not send your child to school if they present with these symptoms** as it is a risk to the school population and causes unnecessary work for our staff who will have to contact you to pick your child up straight away.
- **all staff have been asked to ensure KS1 and KS2 pupils' login details for Bug Club, MyMaths and Times Tables Rock Stars are up to date and that additional tasks / work is allocated on the programs** so that any pupils who are required to self-isolate can access learning at home. This will start from tomorrow.
- **all staff have been asked to begin preparing work packs** that will be uploaded to the school website so that in the event of a long-term closure, pupils will be able to access work from home. More information will follow once this has been set up and tested on our website.
- there is currently no official guidance on what will happen with **statutory assessments**. As soon as we know what the arrangements are, we will let you know.



- should a pupil present with the symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, we will contact the parent/carer immediately and follow the latest guidance on the process to then follow.
- we ask that families **only contact school to report an absence or for urgent matters**. Please keep messages concise as we anticipate the number of calls/emails to rise over the coming days. Any non-essential contact should be avoided as it unnecessarily slows down processes at this uncertain time.

After careful consideration and in light of new government and Local Authority guidance, we have decided that the following measures will be implemented in school:

- year group assemblies and Key Stage assemblies will be cancelled until further notice.
- limited 'carpet time' seating arrangements will be used within the classroom environment.

In addition, we have decided that the following activities and events at Five Ways are now cancelled. (These are as well as the events detailed in my letter sent home to parents yesterday, dated 16.3.20).

- **Year 4 Walking Club visit to The Brickworks involving 10 pupils:** 19th March 2020
- **Year 6 Boys' Football Match at St Luke's Primary School:** 19th March 2020
- **Year 1 visit to Blists Hill:** 19th March 2020
- **Year 6 Chamber Choir performing at Lichfield Cathedral in the Zimbe Concert:** 21st March 2020 (Further information regarding tickets that have been purchased will follow.)
- **Year 3 and Year 4 Cross Country competition at Rugeley Leisure Centre:** 24th March 2020
- **Year 5 and Year 6 Cross Country competition at Rugeley Leisure Centre:** 25th March 2020
- **PTFA Easter Egg Hunt:** 3rd April 2020 (Easter eggs will be handed out to pupils who have purchased tickets on the last day of term before the Easter break, or earlier in the event that school is closed.)
- **Year 3 visit to Twycross Zoo:** 21st April 2020 (Year 3 pupils were aware of the upcoming visit however, a letter had not been sent home due to the current situation.)
- **KS2 Choir clubs that take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school with Mr McFarlane:** (There will be no KS2 choir club taking place from now until further notice. *Please complete the slip at the bottom of this letter to indicate that you have received this message, and that you have made alternative arrangements for your KS2 child to go home safely at 3.20pm on their usual choir night.*) **Please be aware that all**

other Extra-Curricular Clubs will continue as normal unless you are advised otherwise.

- **The Year 6 residential visit to Laches Wood is pending further advice, and will be communicated as soon as possible.**

Events taking place a few weeks after the Easter break are currently scheduled, but we will update you to let you know if they are to go ahead. We are currently working on a day to day basis, making adjustments as we receive official updates.

I would like to reassure parents that all staff in school are working incredibly hard to ensure the school is able to run as smoothly and safely as possible. I would like to thank them for all their hard work.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that there are currently no confirmed cases of pupils or staff with COVID-19 at Five Ways at the time of writing. I would like to thank families who have taken the time to show their support and kindness to our staff since Monday. We really appreciate your understanding and patience during such a challenging time!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rachel Mander
Headteacher

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KS2 Choir Club – Wednesdays and Thursdays after school with Mr McFarlane

I am aware that there will be no KS2 Choir Club after school with Mr McFarlane on a Wednesday and Thursday until further notice as of 17.3.2020.

Name of child: _____

Registration teacher: _____

Signature: _____
(Person with parental responsibility)

Print name: _____
(Person with parental responsibility)

Please complete and return to your child's registration teacher on 18th March 2020.

