



Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Coronavirus Update 17th March 2020

With the increasing concerns around Coronavirus, I am writing to you with regards to changes we have undertaken to take account of the current situation alongside the advice from the DfE and PHE. Please ensure that you read to the end of this lengthy communication.

As you may be aware the Government advice, including a greater emphasis on self-isolation, was updated yesterday. As I shared in my letter at the weekend, we will contact parents/carers to send home any child or adult with a fever or persistent cough. If this should happen, the current advice is that self-isolation should then follow for a period of 14 days for both the child and all family members that live in the household. This will obviously affect children, parents and staff and therefore could impact on the day-to-day running of the school. If or when we find ourselves in this situation, relevant actions may be taken, such as putting classes together with shared staff or dividing classes between teachers.

Other measures we will be putting in to place as from tomorrow include asking all adults not employed by school to stay out of the school building as much as possible. I am requesting that all parents encourage their children to come into school on their own and for parents to drop off at the classroom door. We will, of course be on hand to reassure them. After drop off, please leave the school site promptly. We are seeking to avoid the school community coming together in large numbers and at peak times.

Please use the school office email or phone number to communicate with us, rather than coming into school unless you absolutely need to. Should you not get a quick response, please understand that it will be because we are busy supporting children and/or staff. Please also remember you can drop documents off in the school post box, which is emptied every day. I know this all sounds very anti-social but these are hopefully short term measures that will enable us all to stay fit for work and school, for as long as possible.

We have also made the decision to stop all non-essential visits/visitors to school for the rest of Term 4, which includes parent helpers, sports coaches, members of the local churches and visitors. Whilst we wholly appreciate this support and this is invaluable to school, at this time we feel it is important to safeguard pupils and adults and limit contact with external adults. We are also cancelling the Easter Fayre, although will still be selling raffle tickets in school for the raffle, and postponing the Year 4 European Museum. Further details re rescheduling will be sent in due course.



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Head Teacher: Diane Mulley

There are also a number of Class Presentations planned for this week and next, including Y1CR (19th March), Y4SH (20th March), FS2 (26th March) and Y3NP/RW (27th March). Our priority, as stated previously, is to safeguard both pupils and adults, however we do recognise the work that has gone into these presentations and the importance of parents/carers being able to attend such events. As such the current position is that the presentations will take place but only the class presenting and the parents/carers of the class presenting will be in attendance. This is subject to review during the course of the week. Collective Worship will also be class based for the rest of the term rather than whole school to reduce close contact.

With regards to next week and the planned Parent Consultation meetings, we have made the decision not to go ahead with these as planned, given the current situation, to limit the risk to the school community. Instead termly reports will be sent home with the pupils at the end of this week. If you do have any questions with regards to your child's report or any further concerns that you would like to discuss with school staff, please email feedback@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk so your concern or query can be directed to the right Year Group/adult.

There have also been a number of concerns raised about school trips. The school has consistently followed all DfE guidance re visits, including whether they should go ahead, however I can confirm that there are currently no further trips planned or booked at this point in time for the current academic year other than the Year 6 residential. Decisions with regards to the Year 6 residential visit will be made in due course.

At this point I think it is important to add context and reality. Despite the Education Minister's announcement that schools will remain open for the time being, we are doing what we must, including preparing for a national closure. We are currently compiling work that will be shared with all pupils face to face and with parents/carers via our school website or via Wisepay. This will be a mix of paper tasks, website links, spellings, games and reading challenges that the children can try. At the time of any closure we will send the children home with any resources that may be relevant to their age or stage.

With this in mind, it is important that you make us aware if your child will not have access to a computer to view this work and please make sure we have your correct email address and ensure you are checking your Wisepay regularly. During this period we will endeavour to use Wisepay for only essential communication, so when you get an alert, please read the messages carefully. Please send any amendments to your contact details to: office@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk. Similarly please keep us informed if your child is going to be absent including the reason for absence using the following email: absence@spaldingparish.linc.sch.uk

Finally, please can I ask you to speak to us directly if you are worried or concerned or have any further questions. Be assured that if there is something we all need to know - or if there is something that potentially increases the risk for you or your child - we will share that information ASAP and act upon it.

Thank you to all for your continued support of the SPCEDS team during this time, it is hugely appreciated. Whatever challenges we may face in the next week or so, I feel confident that we will meet these together.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards,



Diane Mulley, Head Teacher



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