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Information for Parents around School Precautions in the light of COVID19 Coronavirus

Friday 13th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I know many of you will be following news around the coronavirus issues at national level and may be anxious about health concerns for your child and other family members.

I would like to update you with the action we are taking in school to reassure you that sensible precautions are being taken to keep our children safe.

In the Winsford Education Partnership, all schools have consulted to adopt a common and consistent approach to our response to safeguard our pupils, students and staff. We have also taken advice from the Local Authority and continue to be guided by the daily updates from the Department for Education.

We are implementing the following measures until further notice:

- Handwashing protocols – children are now washing their hands on entry to school, before lunch and snack, after sports activities and breaks and before leaving school.
- All staff and visitors will be expected to follow a similar protocol and support the school in these measures.
- Increased cleaning practices around school with particular regards to door handles, light switches and other touch points.
- Public Health England have published new advice for anyone with a new continuous cough or high temperature to stay at home for 7 days. If your child has these symptoms, however mild, please keep them at home. This will help protect others in your community whilst they are infectious. Please plan ahead and ask others for help so that your child can stay at home. Please see the Public Health England website for more information: Here is the latest link. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- Any trips that were planned abroad have unfortunately been cancelled – separate information will be sent regarding refunds.

I do want to stress that these are precautionary measures and there have been no reported cases or contacts Darnhall Primary at this point, so there is no need for parents to be alarmed.

These procedures are being put in place to ensure our children can continue to come to school safely. If you have concerns about your child please contact the school office about your individual circumstances on 01606 593315 or our Family Support Worker Katie Harrop on familysupport@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk. We do understand that for some parents this will be a worrying time and we will do our best to support you.

We hope that these measures will allow our children to come to school and stay healthy and happy. Thank you all for your support in making sure they stay safe. And once again, if you have individual concerns, do contact us to discuss them.

Next Steps

The Winsford Education Partnership have also been working to prepare for any future changes to our planning, including any preparations for school closures.

At present, we have no instruction around a school closure.

If we are instructed to close our school, the building will not be open for the duration of the enforced closure. Once again, the Winsford Education Partnership schools have worked closely together to agree a Continued Learning Plan for your children in this event. This plan will be shared with you at such time as is needed – if at all.

Finally, can I ask that you take account of all information being published each day and continue to follow the published advice on the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

With kind regards

Sarah Tomlinson

Headteacher