



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Families,

As you know, we take the health and wellbeing of our school community very seriously, and we have to play our part in preventing the spread of COVID-19. I must stress that we have **no confirmed cases** of COVID-19 at Long Lawford Primary School. Senior Leaders have plans in place should this change. We have been co-ordinating with other local Headteachers to ensure we are as prepared as we can be for COVID-19.

Following yesterday evening's update from Central Government, the advice given is for **entire households to self-isolate for 14 days** if any member of the household has:

- A high temperature (over 38 degrees) **OR**
- A new persistent cough

There is also more concern for those that are pregnant or have underlying health conditions. Although Central Government have made it clear that **schools are to remain open** for now, I will be contacting those staff members and families I believe should err on the side of caution with regards to COVID-19. This may mean that if there are not enough staff in school, some classes or year groups may need to be closed in order to keep other parts of the school open. It is important to maintain adult-to-child ratios in order to keep everyone on school site safe and well. Senior leaders will do their best to ensure there is as little disruption to your child's learning as possible, and ask that you bear with us during this time.

The Long Lawford teaching team is committed to ensuring the very best hygiene routines for all visitors to our school site. However, I urge all families to be mindful of the government advice above, and if **any member of your family** (who could also be any person that lives within your house that may or may not be related to you) **has any symptom above, to self-isolate for the recommended period of 14 days**. If self-isolating, children may not be permitted to return to school earlier than the 14 days unless government advice changes. Please call the school as soon as possible if you need to isolate your child so that it can be correctly marked on the register. As per attendance procedures, we will call those absent from school regularly to offer support or to get updates with regards to your situation whilst self-isolating. If your child is being isolated but has no symptoms, please contact the school to have work sent home. It no longer matters if families have recently been abroad, however, **vigilance regarding symptoms is essential**. If children (or families) have none of the symptoms given above, there is no reason to self-isolate and not attend school as you would normally do.

As stated by the Prime Minister during his press conference, it is imperative to reduce social interactions as much as possible. I would like to request your help with this by either **emailing or phoning the main office rather than coming into school unnecessarily**. It is important that we all play our part in slowing down this virus, and the above advice will be key to achieving this. Please be mindful that a call back from a specific member of staff may be difficult when covering staff shortage, and therefore email correspondence may be better in this instance. Please send any emails to admin2405@welearn365.com for the attention of the member of staff you want it to go to and our admin team will ensure it is passed on without delay.

We remain satisfied that the postponing of school events as outlined in our last letter (dated Monday 16th March 2020) are appropriate and decisive during this difficult time. We will review planned events for after Easter in the coming weeks, and will inform you as to whether those events will be postponed also. Where possible, **we will reschedule postponed events once the current situation improves**.

We will continue to update you regularly as the situation progresses. We would also recommend you continue to look at the following sources of information to keep yourself informed of all the latest information and advice:

- The Department for Education has established a helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:
Phone: 0800 046 8687
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)
- Detailed information and advice for the public and returning travellers can be found on the NHS.uk website (and will be regularly updated): [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)
- Further information for the public about the situation can be found here (and will be regularly updated): [gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public).

If you are worried about symptoms or need specific advice please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environments.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Claire Stringer
Headteacher