



PRIMARY (FOUNDATION) SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

Webber Street London SE1 0RF Telephone: 020 7207 1807

email: office@friars.southwark.sch.uk

www.friarsprimaryschool.com

Headteacher: Justin Burt

Deputy Headteacher: Jo Wratten

Monday 16th March 2020

Coronavirus update

The government's current guidance is to delay the spread of the Coronavirus. As advice is constantly changing we're writing to you to let you know what we're 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'd like to reassure you that at Friars we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Southwark.

What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given
- All school functions continue to run as normal including breakfast 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 office on the first day of absence
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a child starts to show the above symptoms during the school day we will contact the parents of the child for them to be collected as soon as possible. If a member of staff starts to show the above symptoms we will send him/her home and make sure their responsibilities are covered without any detriment to the well-being of the children.
- Our school is cleaned daily and thoroughly.
- We are reminding children to Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and to wash their hands thoroughly and regularly.

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary 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 anxiety.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough).
- Use the guidance that we will send home about remote learning if the school has to close.



What happens if the school has to close?

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so, or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case we will:

- > Let parents know via text message, letter and on the school's website
- > We will let parents know when the school re-opens via text message, and by posting a message on the school's website
- > We will send home a separate letter with a list of different online resources that will be available for children to access. The teachers will also be setting tasks that can be completed independently, and we will provide a book for written work and non-online activities.

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare.

If you have any questions

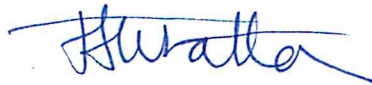
Please consult the:

- > 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

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Justin Burt
Headteacher