



TRANSFORM TRUST
'Together we Achieve'



Bulwell St Mary's Primary School

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COVID-19 Update March 18th 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Government's policy is that schools should remain open. You should continue to send your children to school if they are well.

If anyone in your household has a new, persistent cough or a high temperature, then everyone in the household (not just the individual with the symptoms) must self-isolate for 14 days.

Any child who has been off or sent home with these symptoms, will not be allowed back in school for 14 days from the onset of their symptoms. Similarly, any child who has parents or siblings displaying symptoms will not be permitted in school for the same period and should remain at home.

If your child is unwell, please contact the school office as you would normally while school remains open.

We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation via text message, class dojo and the website.

What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a pupil is feeling ill on the school premises you will be contacted immediately.
- The school is thoroughly cleaned at the beginning and end of each day.
- We have built in regular sessions for hand washing in school including on entry and on leaving the school.
- We are explicitly teaching children about the importance of hand washing in lessons.
- We have cancelled assemblies, trips and gatherings of large numbers of people. Lunchtimes are staggered to minimise social contact.
- Staff are also self-monitoring and self-isolating if the need arises. We have also recommended that any staff with a pre-existing medical condition identified by the government guidance should self-isolate.

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office as soon as possible via admin@bsm.nottingham.sch.uk

- We should make sure children feel supported through this issue. BBC Newsround has regular updates for younger children, and YoungMinds <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-you-re-anxious-about-coronavirus/> has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety. This website also has some very helpful advice and strategies. <https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus>
- If we ask you to, please come and collect your child straight away

What happens if the school has to close?

We will only close if we are either officially ordered to do so, or we do not have enough staff to safely run the school.

In either case, we will

- alert parents to closure, via text message, class dojo and also via a post on our website. We will also alert the City Council and the radio stations
- We will let parents know when the school will be reopened again via the school text messaging service, class dojo as well as via the website
- In the event of a closure, we will provide some activities and resources for your child to use. Advice and links will be posted on individual class dojo pages

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- School office- if you have any questions
- NHS- 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

Please do let us know if you are feeling particularly vulnerable at this time and we will do our best to support you or signpost you to the relevant services

Miss C. Godfrey
Headteacher