



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: COVID19 (Coronavirus) Update

As you're probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of 'delaying' the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch 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 the Northumberland Pupil Referral Unit are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government.

What's the current situation?

- **The Northumberland PRU remains open**- this is the current official guidance we've been given
- If you, your child or anyone else in the household has the following symptoms you must follow guidance to stay at home (currently 14 days). Symptoms include; a new, continuous cough and/or a high temperature.
- If your child is unwell or is self-isolating, report this as you normally would by leaving a voicemail or contacting the school office on 01670 514963

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

- Students who feel poorly whilst on school premises will be asked to be collected.
- Premises will be cleaned with appropriate products
- Hand sanitizer provided throughout the school
- Enforcing hand washing

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office as soon as possible via email or telephone (admin@pru.northumberland.sch.uk/01670 5149963)
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. We appreciate it is 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)

What happens if the school has to close?

We will 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:

- Alert parents via our text messaging service (Teachers2Parents) and will post on our school website: www.pru.northumberland.sch.uk
- We will regularly be in contact with parents/carers should the school close.
- Work packs are being prepared. Should the school close we will inform you how these will be available.

Useful websites:

<https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/>

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>

<http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/>

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- **School office**, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- **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

It's a difficult 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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs E Blackburn

(Acting Head teacher)

