



Tickton Pre-school and Play Pals,

Main Street, Tickton,

(01964) 501744

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17 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Coronavirus update: -

As you are no doubt aware, the government has updated its advice to the general public about the measures they are advising should be taken in the light of the coronavirus pandemic. The updated guidance states that if someone develops either of the symptoms outlined below then the whole household should self-isolate for fourteen days.

- a high temperature
- a new cough

The more detailed advice is available on these government websites. The first link is the updated 'stay at home' advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-homeguidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Should your child need to self-isolate, please inform the school as per our normal absence reporting arrangements and state that the reason is 'self-isolation'.

Should you or your child have more significant symptoms please phone 111 or use the NHS 111 website: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

Should a child become symptomatic during the day they will be sent home. Please bear with our team at this unprecedented time - they are doing a fantastic job in extremely difficult circumstances.

The government has also updated its guidance around social distancing; please find a link to this information below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-forvulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-olderpeople-and-vulnerable-adults>

The government has stated that schools and settings should remain open for now but it is clear that the likelihood of closures across parts of, or the whole country, is highly probable. We have had no specific advice or guidance from the government regarding such an eventuality. If, as part of the national response to this pandemic, we are instructed as a school/setting to close, then we appreciate the strain that this will put on parents and carers.

We will communicate with you directly via social media and the setting website should such a situation materialise about the plans we will enact in such circumstances.

It may be that staff shortages will mean that we have to take the decision to partially or fully close because we are unable to operate the setting safely. Please be aware that should this be the case it may well be with only very short notice to parents. I apologise in advance for that.

We have increased opportunities for children to wash their hands during the school day and increased cleaning.

Education ministers and school leaders are discussing the situation later this week. The DfE has a dedicated phone line that can be accessed by parents, as well as those in the education sector: 0800 046 8687

Our team are continuing about their business in the professional manner that you would expect and we would like to thank parents for your continued support in the face of this pandemic.

We will endeavour to update parents as and when the situation develops and as government advice changes.

Helen.

Helen Turner BA(HONS), EYPS, PGCE.

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