



Mary Webb School & Science College, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 0TG

Headteacher: Mr P J Lowe-Werrell

TEL: 01743 792100

FAX: 01743 792110

Email: admin@marywebbschool.com

Website: www.marywebbschool.com

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Dear Parent/Carers,

As media attention surrounding COVID-19 (commonly referred to as coronavirus) increases, and in light of the outcome from the government COBR meeting held yesterday, I wanted to remind you of the letter I issued on 26th February. You can find this letter on the school website, under the 'Latest News' tab, along with other information from official government sources or relevant to our school.

There have now been some updates from the Department for Education (DfE) and Public Health England (PHE) which I should make you aware of. The sources of the information which contain the updates I am writing to you about are as follows:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/covid-19-travel-guidance-for-the-education-sector>

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

School Trips

Domestic trips can continue as planned.

Planned overseas trips are to be cancelled until further notice. (If your child is currently booked on to a planned overseas trip, we will contact you separately with further details).

Overseas trips currently taking place should continue as planned, with updates made to risk assessments. If a friend or family member is currently on an overseas trip with school, the DfE has advised me, following a call I placed to them this morning, such trips will return as planned, as there is no need to amend them. Parents of students on our trip to the battlefields of northern France have been contacted and advised of this.

Attendance

You should consider the following in relation to your child attending school:

- The symptoms mentioned on the Government's guidance are a **new** persistent cough and/or a high temperature (over 37.8°C).

- If your son/daughter shows the relevant signs of infection, please do not send them to school for seven days.
- If your son/daughter reports the symptoms to us in school we will ask you to collect them without delay. They will need to go home and not return to school for seven days.
- Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for you, in the event we need to call you to collect your son/daughter, and there is someone available to collect them, without delay.
- Please note that the weblink above has a section entitled “While you are staying at home – make sure you do the following things” which you will find helpful if any member of your family shows symptoms.

At this stage the DfE and PHE have advised that schools remain open. Should advice be issued to the contrary, we will need to contact you, so it is important you return the contact details form we have enclosed with this letter, as soon as possible.

When I receive further official guidance or instruction from the Department for Education and/or Public Health England, I will ensure it is passed on to you as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your continued pragmatic, calm and supportive approach in these challenging circumstances

Yours sincerely

Mr P J Lowe-Werrell
Headteacher