



## **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020**

Dear Parents,

With the rapidly changing situation regarding Coronavirus I wanted to update you with details of the school's current position and proactive measures Cricklade has in place to delay the spread of COVID-19 within our school community.

The school is open and we intend, at this point, to plan for and deliver the normal curriculum and timetable for the next two weeks. However, we understand that parents may be anxious and may be struggling with the decision to self-isolate early, meaning that their child/ren do not come to school during this time. I am sympathetic to parent's concerns but would encourage you to continue to send your child in to school unless they have the symptoms of Coronavirus or have been in contact with a Coronavirus carrier. If parents do choose to remove their child from school in the next two weeks then the school will send home the teaching materials that are covered during the normal Maths and English lessons. It is not possible to send full curriculum content home as my staff are already working full time at school and are under increasing pressure and workload due to the situation and I must look after their welfare as I do the children's. In the event that the school is advised to close by the government, the school will of course be supplying parents with work to complete at home.

### **School Procedures to Delay Spread of COVID-19**

Our aim is to delay the spread of the virus and to keep our children as safe as possible. Cricklade will be ceasing any activities that are not fundamental to the children's core education from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and until further notice; this is in line with the government announcing that all we should stop all non-essential travel.

### **Parent's Evenings, Trips & Matches, Visitors and Events**

#### **Parent's evenings:**

- Face to face parent's evenings scheduled for this week will no longer take place. Instead, we will be offering telephone consultations at the time that parents booked their original appointment for.
- If you would like a telephone conversation, to be held at the previously booked meeting time, please email your child's form tutor with the telephone number you wish to be contacted on.

#### **Matches have been cancelled until the Easter break.**

- We will endeavour to rearrange where practical and beneficial for the pupils. Where children were due to play matches against other schools, we will be organising training and Inter-House matches involving CMP children only.

#### **Trips**

- The Reception trip to the Toy Museum and the Y1 trip to Steam Museum have been postponed to next term.

#### **Visitors**

- All visitors will continue to be required to share their recent travel history, but will also be required to disclose whether they have been in contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. Action will be taken accordingly and as necessary.

#### **Events**

- The Music and Drama Evening on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Year 3-4 play on Tues 24<sup>th</sup> and Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March are postponed to next term.

#### **Holiday Club**

- The Holiday Club will not take place this Easter.

## Health & Hygiene

- Parents are required to inform me if they, or their children, have been in contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. Action will be taken accordingly and as necessary
- Posters, assemblies and PSHEE sessions have taught children that the best defence against Coronavirus is to thoroughly wash their hands regularly; reminders continue
- Children are reminded to regularly wash their hands and the Pre-Prep children are supervised several times a day to ensure this takes place
- Hand soap, paper towels and hand sanitiser are frequently checked and replenished by site staff
- High-contact areas are being cleaned regularly by our site team during the course of the school day and the whole school is being cleaned thoroughly by professional cleaners each evening
- Staff have been fully briefed on recent government guidelines and will continue to act quickly when they identify any possible symptoms of COVID-19
- The school is keeping a log of all pupil illness, symptoms and resulting actions for tracking purposes
- **Parents are asked to fill water bottles at home** before travelling to school as the water fountain has been identified as an area where cross infection is most likely

## **Self-isolation**

Government guidance regarding self-isolation was updated today and, as such, we would ask that:

- Children and parents are asked to stay at home for 14 days if they or someone they live with, have the following symptoms:
  - a continuous cough or difficulty breathing,
  - a high temperature (37.8°C or above).
- Any children or parents who have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 should make me aware immediately so that exact circumstances can be discussed.
- The self-isolation measures above are also being followed by site, administration, support and teaching staff.

## **Travel Plans**

- We would still be grateful if parents would disclose travel plans up to and including 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 via the electronic form [using this link](#)
- We will assess the situation with regard to any necessary isolation following overseas travel towards the end of the Easter break and update parents with any necessary guidance, which would be in line with government guidelines at the time.

## **Planning for the Summer Term**

We are continuing to plan visits, fixtures and other activities for the Summer Term and the future to ensure that pupils' education is not disrupted by failure to plan ahead. We will make a judgement on the suitability of undertaking these trips and visits nearer to the time.

I do realise that many of these measures will be inconvenient for parents, and also that our position will undoubtedly continue to change as we progress through this fast-moving situation. However, as always, our focus is on the children's health and wellbeing. With that focus in mind, the adjustments we are making will, we hope, enable school life to continue as normally as possible for the children at what is likely to be a challenging time.

I am deeply grateful for your ongoing support and understanding.

Kind regards,



Guy Barrett  
Headmaster