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'At Amblecote we achieve because in our pupils we believe.'

15th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: CORONAVIRUS – ADDITIONAL SCHOOL ACTIONS

We understand that the Coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, is causing much anxiety in our local community, and country as a whole. Please be assured that we are keeping up to date with guidance provided from the Local Authority, DfE and Public Health England to ensure the health and safety of our children and staff. As announced by the Prime Minister, there will NOT be a blanket closure of schools at the moment.

However, some very clear advice has been issued:

If your child or any household member show symptoms of **Coronavirus** (a recent new continuous cough or a high temperature) you are advised to go into self-isolation and stay at home for SEVEN days, if in doubt please see the attached guidance <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>. You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Advice and Guidance from School:

At Amblecote Primary, we are working through a staged and sensible risk assessment to ensure that we are as prepared as possible for a range of potential scenarios and that during this early stage of the infection, we take precautions to mitigate the spread of the virus.

The following measures are in place or will be implemented from Monday 16th March 2020:

- Additional cleaning programme (in place)
- Additional access to hand hygiene on entrance, exit and around the building (in place)

Educational:

- Hand washing demonstrations and practise – [NHS video on handwashing](#) shared and discussed in class.
- In addition to regular handwashing, we will regularly remind the children of 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it' process.
- [What children should know about coronavirus](#) will be shared with our KS2 children in class and opportunities to ask questions and discuss their concerns with staff members.

Daily Measures:

- We will send children home for seven days if they are showing symptoms;
- No time on the carpet in classrooms;
- All whole school assemblies will be cancelled this side of the Easter holiday (including Reception and Pre-school Mothers' day assembly planned for Friday 20th March);
- All parent workshops will be cancelled this side of the Easter Holiday;
- All school events will be cancelled this side of the Easter Holiday, including:
 - Reception classes visit to Holy Trinity Church;
 - Year 4 trip to Black Country living Museum;
 - The Collective Worship Team visit to Top Church in Dudley;
 - The Globetrotter visit to Quarry Bank Primary;
 - The Gifted and Talented afternoons with our local primary schools;
 - Young voices celebration assembly;
 - Year 5 class assembly;
 - KS1 and KS2 Easter Service at Holy Trinity Church.

- There will be no additional visits planned where the children are put into spaces with a large amount of children from other schools.

We are taking the following measures to *delay* the spread of the virus and hope that parents support and understand **WHY** we are having to take this action given this circumstance is unprecedented and extremely serious.

ACTION: PLEASE UPDATE THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITH ANY NEW CONTACT NUMBERS.

We urge you not to panic and assure you that we will update you with any news as soon as it is received by school.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Jane Cook.