



Woodthorpe Community Primary School
Lewis Road
Sheffield
S13 8DA

Tel: 0114 239 9167
Fax: 0114 264 2628
Email: enquiries@woodthorpe.sheffield.sch.uk
Headteacher: Dave Smith
Chair of Governors: Grant Walker
www.woodthorpeprimary.co.uk

17/03/2020

City Community Learning Trust

Coronavirus (Covid – 19) – UPDATE – Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

As the attempt to contain and delay the Coronavirus is strengthened, we are forced to take further measures in school. Whilst none of this is ideal, we hope you understand that these measures are necessary to support and protect your children. In line with latest government advice, the following measures will be introduced **tomorrow morning**.

Measures to avoid Social Contact

You may have seen recent government advice to avoid all social contact. This provides particular challenges in school but we intend to take the following measures to support this measure. Below are listed some actions we will take. We would appreciate your support in making sure they are implemented smoothly.

- **School will not be open until 8.35am – this will begin tomorrow – Wednesday 18th March**
- **There will be no breakfast bar open before school**
- **Parents / Carers will drop off their children at the external classroom doors and not enter the building**
- **Children will be collected from the same doors and no other part of school**
- **Breaks and Lunchtime will be staggered to allow for children to eat in smaller groups**
- **All events (including Learning Journey destinations) and assemblies will be, for the moment, suspended**
- **All meetings arranged with parents will be cancelled and where possible replaced by phone conversation**
- **For the foreseeable future, all after / before school clubs will be cancelled**

Despite the closure of Breakfast Bar, we will still ensure food is available to all children in the morning. During register time and in the space left by cancelling assemblies, children will be served breakfast in their classes before normal learning starts at around 9.20 am. Bagels, toast and cereal will be available at no charge to all children.

Underlying Health Conditions

In line with current recommendations, some staff and children with underlying health issues are isolating themselves to minimise any risk. This is a sensible precaution and one, as a school, we support. If you have a child with an underlying condition and we don't already know, please inform the school office. This may mean in some families, children with siblings with underlying conditions are also kept away. Again, we would support this measure.

Contingency Plans for Extended Absence / School Closure

We are working hard to ensure that we are prepared to support children in their learning should they be in self-isolation or if we are instructed to close the school. At present, I would direct parents and carers to our website / app and ask them to use the Knowledge Organisers to support their child. These include a number of facts they could learn, several words they should be able to define and spell and a series of activities you can carry out at home. As the situation develops, staff will develop further learning resources and these will be uploaded to the website / app and also made available as hard copies.



Sources of Further Information

Updates on COVID-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<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>

The Department for Education has also launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education.

Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 0468687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Thanks, as always, for your support and understanding in this difficult time.

If you have any further questions, please use the links above or, if necessary, contact me at school.

Regards,



Dave Smith – Headteacher

