

Friday, 13 March 2020



THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

Dear Parents / Guardians

In order to ensure that all members of our school community have the most up-to-date information regarding the school's approach to the coronavirus, this update has been created and distributed to staff, parents/carers and pupils.

In summary:

- The school continues to follow government and DfE guidance.
- The school continues to keep parents informed through sharing the daily e-mail from the DfE.
- The school cannot convey its plans or every eventuality but please be assured that plans are in place and developing in line with the advice and guidance provided.

Measures taken in school

- Pupils have been educated on the need and correct procedure for hand washing.
- Daily inspections of toilet and washing facilities by our own cleaning supervisor, and an assurance placed upon having all handwash dispensers filled and those that are not currently working replaced with bottles.
- Installing hand sanitisers to extended parts of the school.
- Encouragement by staff and on signage throughout the site to prevent the spread of disease by using single-use tissues and discarding them correctly and coughing into the elbow.
- A risk-averse approach to pupils presenting with cold and flu-like symptoms by liaising with parents to follow government guidance regarding discussions over self-isolation.

School Closure

The school, on guidance from Public Health England, will remain open and operational until instructed otherwise. It will not be down to the school or its Governors to make decisions on any potential school closures, but on instruction only from Public Health England. If the school is forced to close for a period of time, then the school will continue to provide education for all pupils through online contact, including the setting of work and the ability to contact staff during normal school hours for guidance. We will use Show my Homework to facilitate this.

Our Local Authority, Shropshire Council, have issued the following advice regarding parents choosing to keep their child at home during the situation. They, and we as a school, are bound by law as a public body to follow PHE advice, and that is currently that children should be attending school. Unless they are returning from any of the areas identified by Public

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Health England or they have a persistent cough or temperature over 37.8°C where they should be self-isolating in line with guidance.

Parents should e-mail absence@corbetschool.net or phone the absence line: 01939 262004. Parents should report the specific nature of the illness and date from which the symptoms started. Staff should follow the usual line of absence reporting and again state the specific nature of the illness and date from which the symptoms / 7-day period of self-isolation started.

Safe staffing levels will be monitored, and school provision adapted within the guidelines provided by the DfE.

Many pupils, parents and staff are understandably concerned as to how the coronavirus will impact upon public examinations. There have been no announcements yet by the Department for Education, OFQUAL, or any exam boards regarding any potential postponement or cancellation to these exams.

We are continuing to monitor the advice and guidance around school trips and will update parents when this is clearer, and we have definitive answers on our school trips due to go overseas in May and June 2020.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jane Tinker
Headteacher