



17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It is hard to keep up with the advice on coronavirus. Originally we were dealing with multiple directives and sources of information, now we await the daily news feeds that you are aware of. I understand that this is a worrying time and am happy to talk through any of your concerns, however we are not withholding information regarding the virus or school closures and would appreciate you keeping this in mind when speaking with staff.

A learning pack has been produced for children and will be sent home today. This will also be available to download from the website under the Parents and Families tab, 'Home Learning'. We are also trying to organise access to on-line learning platforms, although as you can imagine with every school also doing the same, this is not as easy as it sounds.

Regular communication will be kept through the My Ed app and the website. Please ensure you have access to these.

Here is what we know so far:

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and hot water
- Use disposable tissues for coughs and sneezes
- Throw away used tissues, then wash hands
- If you don't have a tissue use your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Even if you have no symptoms, you should avoid social venues
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- If you or someone you live with has a new, persistent cough or a high temperature, you should **all** stay at home for 14 days
- If your symptoms get worse or are no better after seven days seek medical advice
- Use the online 111 coronavirus service at [111.nhs.uk](https://111.nhs.uk)

#### Coronavirus: Key symptoms

- High temperature (above 37.8 degrees)
- Cough
- Breathing difficulties

**Friday Acre, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 7HJ**  
**T: 01543 421850 E: [office@chadsmead.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@chadsmead.staffs.sch.uk)**



### Self-Isolation

From now on, if one person in a household starts to display flu-like symptoms – defined as a fever of above 37.8 degrees or a persistent cough – everyone in the household must stay at home for 14 days. You can notify school of self-isolation by using the My Ed app or telephoning.

### **PUPIL ATTENDANCE REPORTS WILL NOT BE AFFECTED WHEN SELF-ISOLATION HAS OCCURRED.**

Guidelines around self-isolation include:

- Avoiding leaving the house, 'even to buy food or essentials'. Although people can go out to exercise, but only at a safe distance from others
- The person with the symptoms should stay in a well-ventilated room with a window that can be opened and kept away from other people in the home. If possible, stay at least 2m (6ft) from other people they live with and sleep alone
- They should ask for help with groceries, other shopping or medication, which can be dropped off on the doorstep by friends, family or delivery drivers
- Other people shouldn't share towels, toiletries or other household items with someone in isolation, who should have a separate bathroom. If that is not possible, the isolated person should use the bathroom last, cleaning it thoroughly afterwards if they are able
- Any rubbish that the isolated person has been in contact with should be double-bagged and kept for at least 72 hours before being put in your usual external household waste bin.

In school, we are being vigilant with looking out for new and continuous coughs and have a thermometer should we need to check for a high temperature. We have established a safe area for any child who is unwell and may show symptoms of the virus. Following the guidance given to schools, this room has a shut door and an open window for ventilation. A child will be safe in this room while parents/carers are called.

In these difficult times, our only interest is for our children, staff, parents and carers. I ask that you continue to support us and recognise that not all decisions are in our control.

Yours sincerely



Mrs G Grainger  
Headteacher