



## PAROCHIAL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keppel Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 6NN

T: 0161 343 6070 E: [admin@pceps.co.uk](mailto:admin@pceps.co.uk)

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Headteacher: Mrs M. Wright

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have received advice from Tameside Assistant Director of Education and the Forward As One Trust and are now in a better position to inform you of the decisions we are making in relation to COVID-19.

The current advice from Public Health England( PHE) remains in place:

- no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.
- the Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and on the workforce will be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to schools will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggests children are a lower risk group.

Please be advised that advice from Government is changing daily.

In this letter I want to inform you of the measures which are in place to minimise the effects of the virus in school and what might be expected to happen in the event of a school closure.

We are minimising the virus in school by:

- increasing focus and guidance on hygiene in school regarding hand washing.
- undertaking a review of risk assessments for visits, visitors and events
  - assemblies will now be held without any visitors/parents attending
  - our Easter Service and Disco will be cancelled
- urging parents to be vigilant. Do not bring children to school if they have a temperature above 37.8 degrees or a new continuous cough. Advice is that these children should stay off school for seven days.
- instructing parents to take their child home. If a parent brings a child in the morning and tells a member of staff that their child has these symptoms or if an older child arrives at the door with symptoms, then staff will ring parents to ask them to collect their child
- contacting parents to collect their child if they have developed a high temperature or a new cough and appears unwell during the school day. This is a difficult decision for staff to make



**Parochial CE Primary School is part of Forward As One CE Academy Trust**

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as children often have coughs in school. Staff have been advised to use the same judgement, whilst in loco parentis, as we would expect from a sensible parent.

- monitoring pupil staff ratios in order to maintain a safe standard of care and education.

### In the event of a School Closure

- You will be notified of a school closure by text, the school app and website. It is very important that you send us up to date details if your contact details have changed.
- Staff are already putting plans in place to be in a position to provide work and online learning suggestions for parents and their children. Our main method of communicating will be activities on the individual class page of the website. We will not expect Parents/Carers to print work out at home but access to a PC/tablet or phone will be necessary, please inform us as soon as possible if you do not have access to any of these.
- Please check with your children and class teachers that you know any necessary passwords to access learning platforms.
- If you have a question for school whilst the building is closed the best way to communicate with us is via email at [admin@pceps.co.uk](mailto:admin@pceps.co.uk) and we will do our best to answer questions as quickly as possible.
- If your child develops a high temperature or a new cough whilst at home or is diagnosed with COVID-19, please let us know at [admin@pceps.co.uk](mailto:admin@pceps.co.uk) as this will help us to communicate with Public Health England
- We will continue to communicate with you via text, the website and email.

We recognise that this is an anxious time for all of us, children and adults alike. If you would like ideas about supporting your child to understand more about the virus, please visit

<https://www.emotionallyfriendly.co.uk/resources/posts/2020/march/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-coronavirus/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51342366>

We aim to keep you updated of any changes to the situation or new guidance and advice. You will also find advice and guidance online at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

We hope you will support us in our decisions to keep everyone as healthy and educated as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Wright  
Headteacher



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