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Coronavirus

Dear Parent

March 10th 2020

Further to the correspondence sent last month re. Coronavirus I am writing to reassure parents that everything is being done to minimise the risk to your children and keep you as informed as we can. My duty at present, as Principal, is to keep everyone in our school community safe and calm. Obviously schools await advice / directives from the EA and relevant health bodies before more stringent measures may be put in place. In the mean-time we are maintaining vigilance and ensuring our children are not distressed by all the wider concerns and implications.

To date, as a school we have engaged in the following:

- Good practice guidelines, advice and contact details from the Public Health Agency were sent home last month.
- Children have been told about the need to wash hands regularly with soap and water and the importance of Catch it. Bin It. Kill it.
- School surfaces, including door handles and ICT equipment are regularly being cleaned.
- Soap / hand dispensers and paper tissues have been made readily available. Please ensure the children wash their hands before coming to school. During the school day the children will wash their hands on entering school, after toileting and before eating.
- Staff are regularly assessing latest developments.
- Staff will be reassessing educational / residential visits and events over the next few weeks and months.
- SLT are regularly talking over matters to prepare for any deterioration or significant change.
- This week non-teaching time was set aside to develop a series of worksheets / booklets which will be sent home this week to be used only in the event of a directed prolonged school closure. It is hoped that this proactive measure will minimise the disruption to your child's learning at what will prove to be a difficult time for everyone.

Parents are asked to regularly check the school Facebook and website pages for any updates.

All trips / events in school may be subject to last minute cancellation. I will seek to ensure that where there is little to no risk, the children's disappointment is minimised.

I am currently seeking clarification from Gowan Travel re. our forthcoming P7 residential to Edinburgh which is now less than 8 weeks away.

Yours sincerely

S.H Moore
Principal

Please see overleaf for general guidance on when it is not suitable to send your child to school.

When to keep your child off school

The purpose of this note is to provide information about when to keep your child home from school, when they are unwell.

Childhood illnesses spread very quickly as children are in close contact in the school setting. Consequently, it is essential that children are not sent to school if they have the following symptoms.

You should not send your child to school if:


- They have a **high temperature**, or are **feverish**.
- They have **flu-like symptoms** or **heavy colds**.
- If they have been vomiting during the night - children should stay at home for **24 hours after the vomiting has stopped**.
- If they have diarrhoea – children should stay at home **for at least 24 hours after the diarrhoea has stopped**.

We understand that it is difficult to arrange childcare when your child is unwell; however, this is your parental responsibility.

It is unfair on your child, the other children in their class and our staff, if you send your child to school when they are unwell.

Please respect this reasonable position, which I believe is in the best interests of all our pupils.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S.H. Moore" followed by a stylized flourish.

S.H Moore
Principal