

Southwold Primary School and Early Years' Centre
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13th March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I wanted to write to you to thank you for the trust we know you place in us every time you bring your child to school. Please be assured that we are receiving daily updates from the working UK Government, the Local Authorities and health organisations to ensure we are following the latest advice regarding the Coronavirus.

We fully understand how concerned you will be feeling about your children and your family regarding COVID-19. I would like to affirm that we have put a number of measures in place within the school to help prevent the spread of the virus.

We would like to request that parents support the school by ensuring your hands are clean before entering and that you use the hand sanitiser and tissues provided before entering the school.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Encouraging our children to use good hygiene practices within the school is a normal part of school life. Children are cleaning their hands on entry into school, before playtimes and lunchtimes and at the end of the school day. We ask that you mirror this hygienic vigilance at home.

The cleanliness of our school is of utmost importance. We have reviewed and made changes to our cleaning programme, to prioritise the thorough cleaning of all hard surfaces within the school

GOING ON HOLIDAY!

The Easter break will soon be upon us, a time when many families will be going away on holiday. If you are planning to visit any places identified as risk areas we would be grateful if you would let your class teacher know and be extra vigilant on your return should you feel unwell. Should you require travel advice the link below may be useful to you.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

SCHOOL CLOSURE

As yet, we are not being advised to close the school in response to the Coronavirus. We continue to follow advice from Public Health England. However, should the necessity for closure arise, we will inform you immediately. We do inform you in advance that if the school does close because of the Coronavirus, children would be provided with home learning packs and there would be an expectation that these are completed to continue the children's learning at home. There will also be links given to online learning sites.

OTHER USEFUL LINKS, STAYING IN TOUCH AND UP-TO-DATE

Should you need to self-isolate please follow the link below

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/02/20/what-is-self-isolation-and-why-is-it-important/>

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19:

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

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

K Clifford

Head teacher

