De Bohun Primary School

Green Road, Southgate, London N14 4AD

Head teacher: Mr Dominic Smart

Telephone: 020 8441 7728

Email: office@debohun.enfield.sch.uk Website: www.debohun.enfield.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to update you after the latest announcement from our Prime Minister yesterday. The following bullet points are relevant to schools.

- Schools have not been directed to close as yet
- Any child or adult who has a temperature of 37.8 or over or a sudden continuous cough and their family who live in the same household will need to self-isolate for 14 days
- If self-isolating, you must minimise contact with each other and avoid social contact
- If self-isolating you must not leave the house

Absences and self-isolation

In certain circumstances you may be advised by medical professionals to keep your child at home even if they are not unwell. If this is the case, please let us know and we will support your decision. I understand that parents are concerned about the risk of their children catching the Coronavirus and that some may wish to keep children at home even though they have not had any medical advice to do so and are symptom free. All children who are well enough to come to school are expected to continue attending as normal unless advised otherwise by Public Health England, medical professionals or unless there are exceptional circumstances.

When you are reporting your child's absence, please give us as much information as possible. This will help us to monitor the situation and to provide the best advice to all staff and families in our community.

School closure

Some parents have asked whether we could choose to close the school now. If we are ordered to close the school by Public Health England, because there is a risk to children and staff we will do. If the government make a decision to close all schools we will do so, otherwise our intention is to stay open and operate as normal. The Government has made it clear it expects schools to remain open unless public health advice has been given to close. This is based on the clear advice from the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government, Sir Patrick Vallence, on how best to manage this epidemic. We are sure that you will be supportive of this.

We are however preparing in case we have to temporarily close classes due to staff shortages or in case the school closes all together. We are looking at ways for managing a learning for children at home. We recognise that if closure is necessary this will have significant implications for many of our families with issues ranging from the loss of free school meals to problems for families finding suitable childcare.



"From possibility to reality..."













Keeping informed

Obviously, we will continue to provide updates as the situation continues to develop and would ask that you inform the school of any contact your family may have had with a person with symptoms or who has tested positive. Please do not report other people. We must remain respectful of one another and responsible for ourselves and others. Please also do not cause panic by announcing on social media that you are self-isolating.

Hopefully, we can all look after one another in this difficult time and look out for those who are disadvantaged such as the elderly or those who may suffer from long term sickness. We are a community and we must think of others.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mr Smart Headteacher