

Rothwell Primary School



Coronavirus Update.

Tuesday 17th March, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, thank you for your support and understanding at this ever changing time.

We aim to keep Rothwell Primary School open and will only close if it is instructed to do so by the Government/DfE, Public Health England or if staffing levels become unsafe to operate. We are determined to continue to educate all children, but in order to do this we would ask parents to consider the following.

Self-isolation

The guidance in this area has seen a significant change in the last 24 hours.

If one person in any household has a persistent cough or fever, everyone living there must stay at home for 14 days.

The most common symptoms to be aware of are:

- a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- a new, continuous cough

Should your child or a member of your family display these symptoms and your family are self-isolating, please contact school on the first day of your 14 day self-isolation and school will mark this absence with a Y code – unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances.

Full guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Prevention

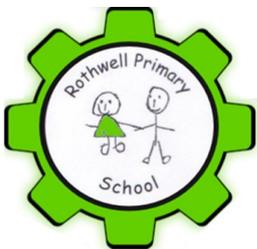
The school has put in place the following measures to minimise the risk of spreading the virus in school:

- Handwashing routines have been increased with children being given time to wash hands on entering the building, after playtimes and at lunch time. The handwashing routine and its importance have been shared with classes throughout school.
- Children are being reminded and supervised closely during the handwashing process to ensure that it is taking place.
- Reminders about not sneezing into hands have been given to classes and you may hear pupils talking about 'dabbing' when sneezing. This is a good strategy to encourage pupils to sneeze into their elbows.
- We are reviewing and increasing the cleaning of toys and other equipment.
- Tables for lunch are being sanitised as well as being cleaned
- Cleaners are using cleaning products more normally associated with a deep clean, and throughout the day, door handles and other areas of school with regular physical contact are cleaned regularly.

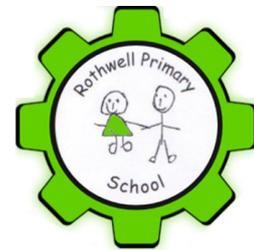
Events and reducing the possibility of contamination:

We are now giving the following guidance, in order to decrease the risk of cross-contamination.

- For the time being, assemblies have been cancelled.
- Children in KS2 will have their packed lunches in their classes in order to minimise the number in the school hall at any time. We have also staggered school dinners for the same reason.
- Tag rugby and the skipping competitions have been cancelled.
- Parent consultations. We are changing the format of these meetings, in light of government advice. Instead of meeting, you will receive a short written summary, which includes progress, effort, targets and a personal comment. If for any reason this does not address your concerns or questions, we can have further discussions.



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Events continued

- The swimming gala has also been cancelled.
- Clubs which have been run by outside agencies: From tomorrow, Ace Club and Kathy's Music Club have been stopped for the time being; this is to prevent cross contamination between schools. Clubs which are run by internal staff will still continue as normal, for this week. Further information to follow regarding next week.
- We would ask that parents support us, by **not** entering the school building unless necessary. Entry is **only through** the main office. If possible, please telephone school rather than coming in.

If you need to come into the school office area, **please use the sanitiser gel** provided and **keep your distance from other parents or staff**. We thank you for your co-operation with this.

Learning at home:

Within our phases, we are currently looking at the best way to provide work for children who are self-isolating or, in the worst case scenario, that school is forced to closed.

Further information will follow regarding this. Usual things are still available: Spelling Frame, TT Rockstars and there is currently free access to www.twinkl.co.uk - which has a range of activities to use.

In the mean-time, we NEED YOUR HELP.

EYFS/KS1 - If your child is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 OR Year 2. Please complete the yellow slip that your child will bring home tomorrow, ideally return the next day.

KS2 - If your child is in KS2, please write in their planner, whether you have internet access at home.

It would be extremely helpful, if you could inform us of this tomorrow so that we can plan the best method to support home learning.

Breakfast Club and Kidz Club:

This will operate in the same way that school does. If school is open, then we will also be providing the wrap around care, which we know you value so much. Again, we will make the same adjustments that we have in school.

The only change we will need to make, at this point, is the food menu. Due to restrictions on shopping and availability of products, there will be changes required. We thank you for your understanding with this.

In terms of charges for Kidz Club, our usual terms and conditions would mean that your child's place has been booked and we have therefore staffed according to this. However, we recognise that this is an exceptional circumstance and therefore, will not charge you for your child's unused place, if they are not able to attend, due to the coronavirus. (Directly or indirectly).

As I am sure you will appreciate, these changes are not taken lightly and that we are reacting to guidance which is constantly changing. We only find out any updates, as you do; we are not privy to any additional information. In this current climate, guidance is changing all of the time and all we can do is to respond to the changes, as they happen and continue to keep you informed.

PLEASE ENSURE that your e-mail and telephone details are up-to-date on ParentPay in order to receive the latest updates. See the separate attachment, if you are not sure how to do this.

Please note, due to the amount of information contained in updates, e-mail will be the key way that we share information regarding this.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, throughout this unchartered times.

Leila Rothenburg



Rothwell Primary School



Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze





Catch it with a tissue

Bin it

Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser







After breaks & sport activities

Before cooking & eating

SCHOOL ETC.

On arrival at any childcare or educational setting

After using the toilet

Before leaving home

- ✓ Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- ✓ Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles
- ✓ If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels

 Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

0203

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.



If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately