Dear parents/carers,

As you’re probably aware, the government’s guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the ‘contain’ phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We’re getting in touch to let you know what we’re doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

As this is an ever-changing picture, we ask that you continue to check the school website where links are available to the most up to date advice and guidance from the government and NHS.

We’d like to reassure you that at Drayton, we’re taking all the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from Public Health England, the Government and local authority.

What’s the current situation?

- The school remains open – this is the current official guidance we’ve been given.
- All school daily functions continue to run as normal including Breakfast Club, Acorn Club and the after school activity clubs.
- All activities involving additional people coming into the school are cancelled until further notice (this includes parent events, trips, visits and meetings)
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms, they should remain at home for 7 days:
  - a new, continuous cough and/or
  - a temperature
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by calling the school office. Please identify why your child is absent.
- We’ll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we’re doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a child becomes unwell and/or presents symptoms while in school, we will call you in the usual way. Please ensure the office has up to date phone numbers for you and your emergency contacts.
- As you are aware, enforced handwashing has increased by children and staff.
- Conversations with children around hygiene continue to have a high priority.
What we need you to do

- If you’ve recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office as soon as possible via email or telephone.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It’s a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. BBC Newsround has regular updates for younger children and YoungMinds has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we’ll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)

What happens if the school has to close?

We’ll only close if we’re either officially advised to do so or we don’t have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we’ll:

- Notify you as soon as possible by the Norfolk Schools website, the school website and via text message.
- Notify you by the above methods regarding the school reopening.
- For a short-term closure – suggested activities for Reception children will be available via Tapestry. For Year 1 and Year 2, suggested activities will be available via the school website. These will be updated daily. **Work will only be set in this way if the whole school is forced to close.**
- For a long-term closure – we will update the website with further information accordingly.

Please keep in mind that we’re only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- [NHS, if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/symptoms/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/), If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online if possible before calling 111](https://www111.nhs.uk/
- Department for Education’s coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government’s response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government’s [travel advice, if you want to know whether any upcoming trip](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice) or holiday you’re taking abroad should go ahead

It’s a tricky time and we know you’re worried about the impact this might have on our community. It’s important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Karen Winter
Partnership Headteacher