



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you about the current situation caused by the Coronavirus.

We still have no confirmed cases of staff or students being diagnosed with the virus. However, we do have a number of staff and students who are following guidance to self-isolate.

Now the government's guidance states that should anyone in the household have these one of two symptoms of the virus

1. A new continuous cough
2. A high temperature

Then everyone in the household should self-isolate for 14 days

We suspect that absence by staff needing to self-isolate will increase which will raise the possibility of partial or full closure.

The following non-essential events have been cancelled or postponed..

- Parents meetings are being replaced by phone consultations
- Film night
- Year 5 topic events
- Whole school assemblies

These are challenging times for us all and as a parent of two children, I fully understand the anxiety that some families are experiencing at the moment. The national media, along with social media sites are all offering ever-changing and contradictory advice about what should happen next and this is creating a sense of alarm for some people. We will do our best to ensure you get clear information as soon as we can and we recognise that there are very many different views, opinions and family circumstances which will affect your concerns about coronavirus and what to do. We respect the decisions that you will be making for yourselves and your own family at this time particularly if your child or a family member has underlying health issues. Please know that we will support anyone who makes the choice to self-isolate for any reason. Included is a second letter providing some links to online learning for pupils in isolation.

At the moment, the advice is that children are relatively low-risk and that schools should remain open. We also know that closing the school down will present problems for working families who may be unable to take paid leave to look after their children. Our approach at this time is to remain open for as long as we can whilst being mindful of the health of students, staff and families.

In the meantime, please keep yourselves safe and thank you again for all your understanding and support; it is much appreciated by us all here at school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Summerton'. The 'S' is a large, stylized cursive letter, and 'Summerton' is written in a smaller, flowing cursive script.

Mr Steve Summerton
Headteacher