



Homefield Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

3rd March 2020

As you must all be aware by now, each day that passes we see the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) ever widening and as a school we are guided by Department of Education, as well as Public Health England regarding the processes to tackle this illness to ensure we remain unaffected by it. A link to further information has already been shared on our social medial pages, as well as posters on our doorways.

Guidance we have received is that anybody who has travelled to any named Category 1 infected area around the globe and those, who as a result of their travels, have become ill in visiting either a Category 1 or Category 2 area must quarantine themselves for a minimum of fourteen days. In that time, individuals may seek a medical assessment to determine whether they have been affected by the illness. Further advice can be found at the following websites:

www.111.nhs.uk

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/advice-for-travellers/>

If our families take foreign holidays at this time, we encourage them to identify on their request for leaves of absence forms where they are travelling. This will enable us as a school to offer advice to them, and to be pro-active in ensuring the school remains unaffected and safe. If forms do not contain this information, a member of staff will enquire. Please be aware that if a family has been to a named Category 1 infected area, the school will impose the fourteen-day quarantine ruling and as a result, will not allow members of this family to attend school for any reason. Only approval from a medical professional in writing will be accepted to overturn this decision. If a family has been to a Category 2 area, then it is important that the family monitors the health of each member and should symptoms develop then self-isolation for fourteen days should be immediately started. This would then follow the same protocol as if a Category 1 area had been visited. Please be aware that this situation changes daily with new areas of the world being listed. This website explains Category 1 and Category 2 areas in more detail: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Please also be aware that as with any holidays taken during term time, extended absences will not be authorised for quarantine nor for additional delays in returning to school due to flight cancellations or increased Customs problems.

In order to prevent the spread of any illness, personal hand hygiene is paramount. So we ask for your support in ensuring all pupils and adult visitors to our school know to wash their hands regularly with warm water and soap. The regular and responsible use of hand sanitiser is also encouraged.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. B. Young
Headteacher

