



Ackworth Howard Church of England (VC) Junior and Infant School

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Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

19th October 2020

Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

(The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if well).

As you are already aware, due to a positive COVID-19 case in school and additional staff having to self-isolate as a result, we have had to close our school kitchen temporarily.

The decision to close the kitchen means that we have very limited capacity to provide meals for pupils this week. So that we are able to keep school open and functioning, we are requesting that parents or carers provide a packed lunch for their child/ren this week only. This includes all infant and junior classes. Children who are eligible for free school meals (not universal infant free school meals) will be contacted separately to discuss arrangements for provision. We very much appreciate your support with this and expect that it will be a short term solution. However, if any parent or carer will find this difficult please contact school at the earliest opportunity so that we can find a solution.

I want to reassure you that school is working closely with the Director of Public Health in Wakefield who has confirmed our planning and protocols are robust and we are doing all we can to reduce the risk of transmission in our school.

We have also been made aware today of a child in our Year 4 class who has tested positive for Covid-19. We have discussed this with the PHE Health Protection Team who have advised that no further action is necessary as the child was not in school during the infectious period. I will continue to monitor this situation.

Below I have copied the guidance from Public Health England which informs you what to do if your child develops COVID-19 symptoms.

As always we will do all we can to ensure our children and staff are safe and we will endeavour to keep school open and functioning effectively during these very challenging times.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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Forgiveness
Friendship
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Further information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If you/your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> If you are concerned about symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Walker



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Headteacher

