



Gatten and Lake Primary School
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Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will no doubt be aware, tonight Boris Johnson has issued new guidance at the press conference. This updates the guidance sent home today. I include a round-up below and highlight in red the significant factors to consider before sending children into school, to protect your children, family and others.

Round-up: UK coronavirus press conference

The press conference with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has ended, and it's fair to say there's quite a lot to take in.

Here are the key points:

- Everyone in the UK is now being advised to avoid "non-essential" contact with others and "unnecessary" travel
- People are also being asked to work from home "where they possibly can", and avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and social venues
- **People are now being advised to stay at home for 14 days if they, or anyone in their household, has either a high temperature or a "new and continuous cough"**
- People in at-risk groups will be asked within days to be "largely shielded from social contact" for 12 weeks
- The UK is to scale up coronavirus testing in the coming weeks
- From tomorrow, mass gatherings will no longer be provided with emergency workers

As stated earlier today:

This is of course a rapidly changing situation. Please be assured that as a school we are monitoring the situation very closely, we will respond swiftly to any new or additional government guidance as it becomes available. We have continued to be in regular contact with the local authority and will be closely guided by them in regard to monitoring absences and any potential school closure. Please be assured that the school already has risk assessments in place both in relation to preventing the spread of coronavirus but also in the event of significant staff shortages or enforced school closure.

We understand that the current uncertainty around this situation may be very worrying or frustrating for parents, making it is very difficult for families to be able to plan ahead. We will endeavour to continue to communicate any changes to you as soon as possible. If we need to communicate with you outside of school hours including during the weekend, we will do this via email.

As the 'Reading Cafés' can be deemed as social gatherings, these we cease until further notice.

All trips – as deemed as unnecessary travel - will be cancelled until further notice. More information to follow.

In the meantime, children should continue to come to school as normal and we will continue to promote good hygiene, as a matter of course throughout each day as previously advised.



If you need to make us aware of any changing situations at home, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone or by emailing admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk

Kind regards

Rebecca Day

Headteacher.

