Somerset Education

TRINITY C.E.V.C. FIRST SCHOOL
Headteacher: MRS A SEAGER

Telephone: 01373 461949
Fax: 01373 472594
Email: office@trinityfirst.somerset.sch.uk

Nunney Road
Frome
Somerset
BA11 4LB

March 13th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you with the latest information we have to share with regard to Coronavirus.

NHS Advice on self-isolation:

You should stay at home for 7 days if you have:

- A high temperature (above 37.8°) and/or
- A NEW continuous cough

If one member of a household needs to self-isolate, they should avoid all contact with the rest of the household wherever possible. If it is not possible to do this (for instance a single parent with small children) then the children should also be part of the isolation and the whole family needs to stay at home and only leave the house to be in wide, open spaces.

If you are directly affected by self-isolation, it is vital that you let the school know as soon as possible so that we can monitor the level of risk to the school community as a whole.

Changes to Planned Events

In light of decisions being made to keep social gatherings to a minimum we have decided the **following events will be postponed**:

- All class learning together sessions between now and the Easter holiday (Holly, Bramble, Poppy and Jasmine)
- The Relationships and Sex Education meeting (Wednesday 18th March)
- Sunshine and Rainbow Classes Mothers' Day craft sessions
- Holly and Bramble trip to the Roman Baths

We have also decided that from next Friday, we will stop welcoming parents and grandparents to join us at the Stars Assembly and will hold this for pupils and staff only for the time being.

We have been in touch with the staff at Steam and have been told that they are operating a 'business as usual' policy. On the basis of this, and the fact that as yet the virus does not seem prevalent in this area, we are proposing to continue with the Pine and Gorse trip as planned. However, if parents of the children in those classes feel

concerned about this decision, I would like you to let your child's class teacher, the school office or myself know.
We are also planning to continue with the parent consultation meetings on Monday afternoon. We feel that it is possible to conduct these meetings within the recommendation of maintaining a distance of 2 metres and keeping contact shorter than 15 minutes. Teaching staff will work as hard as possible to ensure they keep all appointments within the allotted time of 10 minutes and I would ask parents to do their bit to support this also. In that way, we can hopefully keep waiting time to a minimum.

School Closure

We have had NO official indication from either the government or the Local Authority regarding a potential school closure at this stage. However we are making plans should this situation happen, either due to an instruction from the government or Public Health England, or in the event of too many staff being affected by self-isolation for us to care for the children safely. We will always aim to maintain regular staff for all classes, but please could I ask parents to be patient with us if this is not always possible.

We will be putting information about work and activities the children should do during a closure on the class pages of our school website (www.trinityfirstfrom.co.uk) as well as links to useful websites and resources. We are exploring ways of enabling contact between parents and class teachers via email to identify the most effective process so that we can continue to engage the children with learning and support parents who may have to step in to explain tasks. We are already sending extra reading books home and are planning to send each child home with a blank exercise book and pencil so that everyone has something to record learning with. Most of the tasks we will direct children and parents to engage in will be practical, possibly research-based and linked to current or future planned learning.

Notification of a school closure will happen in the usual ways – a text to all parents for whom we have a current mobile number; a notice on the school website; a post on the TSA Facebook page and a post on the school's Twitter account - @first_trinity

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Of course as always, please come and have a chat if you have a concern.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Seager