



Rangeworthy C of E VC Primary School

Church Lane, Wotton Road, Rangeworthy
South Gloucestershire
BS37 7ND

e-mail: rangeworthyprimary@sgmail.org.uk

Website: www.rangeworthyprimaryschool.co.uk

Head teacher – Mr J Powell

Telephone – (01454 228425)

Coronavirus update

17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please can I remind you all that if your child has a persistent cough and/or a temperature of 37.8 degrees centigrade they must stay at home and you should follow the government's advice that the whole household should self-isolate for 14 days if anyone in the house has symptoms, no matter how mild the symptoms might be. This is what we will enforce at Rangeworthy.

If you are self-isolating the guidance is also clear: you should not go out other than for exercise and then to keep at a safe distance from other people.

The government is not closing schools currently and we will do everything we can to keep our school open, but there may be circumstances, with particular reference to health and safety and/or staffing ratios, where we may need to close.

If staff absence is such that we cannot provide adequate supervision then we will have to close the school. At this point, parents will be informed by the school using the normal closure notification procedure and we will endeavour to get our communications to you through our school website and the text messaging service as soon as physically possible.

We are in the process of sorting out online work for your child/ren to complete at home via an online learning platform which we are intending to use in the event of a school closure or period of self-isolation. However, it is important that you realise that your personal emails will need to be used for this to happen. **If you object to this, please inform us tomorrow – 18/3/2020.** If your child/ren do not have access to the internet at home, please let us know as soon as possible by phone.

We have already put the following precautions in place at school to limit the potential transmission of the disease. These being:

- Ensure children's hands are washed in school as they arrive and at regular appropriate times during the day.
- Enhance the daily cleaning regime in school
- Ensure that the children are given age appropriate information about the Corona Virus so that they can better understand what is happening and put it into context to avoid unnecessary anxiety.
- Monitor closely the health of our children and staff – this might mean asking you to keep your child at home for 14 days if a new, continuous cough or a temperature is detected alongside the rest of the family.

- Ensure as far as possible that school is kept open but only if this can be done whilst ensuring safe staffing levels. Any decision to close our school due to staff or pupil illness will, in the first instance be discussed with the Local Authority/Chair of Governors.
- Begin to prepare for the possibility of a school closure if the government thinks it might be necessary at some time in the future by preparing ideas and resources for learning at home

Furthermore, our school will operate as normally as possible with continued vigilance around hygiene. As part of the business contingency planning, we have collectively taken the following actions to safeguard all the stakeholders of the school. This is a challenging and evolving situation at school level and do ask for your continued understanding.

Immediate actions:

1. Cancellation of parents' evening (previously notified by letter).
2. Cancellation of Swift Sports After School clubs on both Monday and Tuesday from Monday 23rd March.
3. Cancellation of fencing club for the remainder of the term-refunds will be made for missed sessions (advice received from British fencing).
4. Computing Xplorers to run until the end of term-with careful attention to the cleaning of the keyboards.
5. KS1 Wild Place trip is cancelled.
6. Easter Bonnet Parade will take place but unfortunately visitors will not be allowed.
7. Visitors and helpers will not be allowed in school.
8. A staggered drop off (9.15) and pick up (3.00) is being offered to the stakeholders who need to 'socially distance.' Please inform the school office if your family would like to take up this offer.
9. Stakeholders to continue informing the school of any underlying health issues that we are presently unaware of.
10. Swimming will not be taking place as of Friday 20th March. A reimbursement will take place in due course if necessary.
11. Do not come to the school office in the morning or after school. Please send any communication/letters via your child or phone the school to talk to a member of staff.

The school is at the centre of the community and we will continue to play our part in supporting others and operating with compassion and kindness. Our principle concern as educators is the health and well-being of our students and staff. We will of course update you on the latest developments when we know more.

In conclusion, I hope these measures assure you that we are trying to balance our duty to the health and safety your child / children, and the wider public health concerns with the essential job of keeping children feeling safe, happy, cared for and secure. We will, of course keep in very close touch with both yourselves and the appropriate authorities during this time, receiving and responding to relevant information and guidance and providing you with updates as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

James Powell - Head Teacher

