



Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

Telephone: **01256 389278**

Email: **admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk**

Headteacher: **Mrs. Simrit Otway**

17th March 2020

Dear Parents,

As I am sure parents will appreciate, we are dealing with a complex and rapidly changing situation regarding Coronavirus COVID-19.

We believe that maintaining some normal routines are important for the mental health and well-being of our pupils. The school will stay open for as long as it is safe and viable and my first priority will always be the health and safety of the pupils and staff in our school. We are following advice from the government and NHS which underpin the actions we take.

Please check that your child does not have a fever and do not send your child or siblings into school if they have a new, continuous cough **or** a high temperature (i.e. 37.8 degrees or higher/hot to touch on back or chest).

If a child is unwell during the school day, the school office will contact parents to arrange to collect your child. I fully appreciate that it may be inconvenient to interrupt your work and collect your child from school. Please respond with courtesy and respect when speaking to us on the phone or when collecting your child from school. We are working hard to continue the education of our pupils whilst protecting everyone in our community.

Each school has unique and individual circumstances. It may be necessary, if we have staffing shortages and following a risk-assessment, that I have to close the school partially for some classes or fully. We will make sure that information about this is sent to you if we reach this situation. In the meantime, we are putting plans in place that mean if pupils have to stay at home there will be learning they can access through the school's website.

School trips and workshops during the next few weeks will be dealt with on a case by case basis. We have cancelled the trip next week to Milestones. Your trip contributions will be kept in credit for the next school trip.

Any whole school gatherings will be on hold in the interim. From tomorrow, classes will have classroom based collective worship and assemblies.

It is important that pupils continue to follow the advice about washing hands properly, please do reinforce this at home.

The dinner hall tables and chairs are being cleaned thoroughly before, in between and after sittings with approved cleaning liquids by the local authority and caterers. Our classrooms and high contact work surfaces are cleaned daily.

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As you can imagine we are currently very busy and unable to respond to individual emails with queries and advice as to whether your child should attend school. As parents, you are best placed to judge that. Please look at the guidance provided in the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

As per our school attendance policy, please make sure that any absence is clearly accounted for by phone on the first day of absence with the reason. Please do not email the school to record absences.

In the meantime, thank you for your understanding and we will keep you posted with updates.

With best wishes

Mrs Simrit Otway
Headteacher

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