



# Leigh and Bransford Primary School

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Wednesday, 18 March 2020

Dear parents,

## **Covid 19 General Strategy Update**

Following recent changes to the government's position on covid 19, I'm contacting you to answer questions you may have about the current situation at school.

### **Changes in School**

We have to make changes to the way we operate at school. Please take note of the following, which will all take effect from tomorrow (Thursday 19th March):

- We will be limiting the visitors we have in school. We will only allow essential visitors to access school and they will be asked to wash their hands, as a priority, when they enter school.
- We have decided to cancel all externally run clubs from tomorrow until further notice. Teacher led clubs will continue.
- We are waiting to hear from Severn Arts regarding music lessons.
- Due to staffing shortages there will be no morning or after school club from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

### **What actions are being taken in school?**

- The children and staff have been following the standard guidance to regularly wash hands and to catch it, bin it kill it.
- In order to reduce the chances of the virus being brought into school, we will introduce the measure that all visitors and parents visiting school will be asked to wash their hands.
- Cleaning of communal facilities and surfaces has increased.
- We will not be having assemblies or large gatherings of more than a class size.
- Lunches will be staggered and children spaced out as much as possible.
- Senior leaders and governors are in regular contact and are monitoring best practice advice.
- Vulnerable pupils and adults have been risk assessed and where necessary asked to stay at home. In some cases this may involve reduced services.
- All non-essential gatherings will be stopped, so the planned cake sale before Easter will not take place.
- Unless the situation changes other Friends events after Easter will most likely be cancelled.

### **What is the position on school trips?**

- Until further notice, we have decided not to book any trips for the summer term and will review this after Easter.
- As things stand the Y6 residential will not be going ahead although this may change if the

situation allows.

### **Will SATs/ Assessments be taking place?**

- We continue to prepare for the Year 6 SATs and other assessments as normal.
- We are currently not aware of any changes that will affect the statutory assessments, (KS2 and KS1 SATs, Year 4 Multiplication Test and Year 1 Phonics Screening).

### **What should I do if my child is ill?**

- Reporting illness should continue as normal by phoning the school office.
- If you believe that your child is displaying covid 19 symptoms as specified by the government, report the absence in the normal way and disclose these symptoms to us. (At the time of writing the symptoms are: a new, continuous cough and/or a temperature of 37.8 or above)
- Please let us know if you need to self-isolate because you have a vulnerable relative living in your household.

### **Will Leigh and Bransford be closing?**

- As you are probably aware, all schools have been directed to remain open. Should this guidance change I will communicate with you via these channels:
  - Worcestershire County Council school closure page:  
[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/874/school\\_closures](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/874/school_closures)
  - Text message
  - School website: [www.leighbransford.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.leighbransford.worcs.sch.uk)

I will use the same channels to communicate any re-opening news or any other updates.

### **What will happen if Leigh and Bransford is closed?**

- Staff will do all they can to support students learning at home.
- They will do this via Class Dojo
- We understand that the BBC will be increasing their educational offer and we will signpost you to that.

### **Is there anything I should be doing now?**

- Please continue to take the necessary precautions. Ensure that your child continues to use good hygiene with regular hand washing.
- Please keep children's personal items at home, including cuddly toys, lip balms, pencil cases and any other non-essential items they would usually bring into school.
- Please let us know by tomorrow (Thursday) at midday if your child does not have access to a tablet or computer which is connected to the internet at home. We will be relying on online platforms in the event of a closure and without the internet your child will need other resources. We need notice to plan this for them, so please let us know.
- If you are not signed up for Class Dojo then please consider doing so.

**Where to find the latest information:** <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

If you have any questions or concerns then please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to help. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bill