

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Coronavirus Update – 18th March 2020

Firstly, thank you. Thank you for your ongoing support during this incredibly challenging time. I cannot express how proud I am of the pupils, staff and wider school community as together we remain focused on our core purpose - education.

As announced today by our PM Boris Johnson and Education Secretary Gavin Williamson, school will close at 3.10pm on Friday 20th March to the vast majority of our pupils. We are now working quickly to make arrangements for those children whose parents meet the Key Worker criteria and those with Education Care and Health Plans. As I write, we are awaiting more guidance of how exactly this will work. **In the meantime, school will remain open to any pupil who is not unwell or self-isolating on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th March with all breakfast and afterschool clubs running as normal.**

It is important to emphasize however that the school will be closed to the vast majority of pupils from Monday 23rd March. The aim is to stop the spread of Coronavirus and having significantly less pupils in school will do this. Our class teachers have already created home learning packs. The sheets in the packs are there to be written on and parents can just work through the things sent as you see appropriate. This is a short term fix until more information becomes available and we know how long we could be in this situation for. We have also provided each child with a log on to a collection of online learning platforms.

We have also added an area into our school website called Home Learning. Over the coming days, we will populate this area with even more information to support learning at home and some online resources; this will just take a little time. If you are having any problems with learning at home, we have set up a dedicated email address homelearning@grovehouseprimary.co.uk, which will go live tomorrow. You will be able to use this address to ask any questions you have and we will do our very best to help where we can.

As a reminder:

- **If you, your child or anyone else who lives in your household** becomes unwell with a **persistent cough** or a **high temperature (above 37.8°C)**, then you must **all stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days**. To be clear, this applies to **everyone** living in the household.
- A period of self-isolation begins from when the first person in your household displays any of the symptoms above, and it should last for a full 14 days.
- Those aged over 70 should be avoiding any contact with schools.
- Everyone should be avoiding any unnecessary social contact, such as visiting the cinema, the theatre, bars or restaurants- this is so that the spread of the virus is slowed down as much as possible.

Parents will receive a text when more information is available – I assure you we are working as quickly as possible to provide you all with the information you need. Thank you for your patience.

Yours sincerely



Miss L Clapham
Head of School