



Alameda Middle School

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16th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

You will recall our earlier communication from 2nd March and the update letter sent last week regarding **Coronavirus**. As you will be aware, this is something where events are moving on and so we wanted to keep you updated.

Updated information on our Website

Today, we have updated the information on our website. Please follow this link:
<http://www.alamedamiddleschool.org.uk/page/?title=Coronavirus&pid=76>.

The Government recently announced that the UK has moved from the contain phase of the coronavirus action plan and into the delay phase, in response to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Full details of each stage in the government action plan can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

Update to Self Isolation Guidelines

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above).
- A new, continuous cough.

At present, the request to self-isolate does not include family or household members of those showing symptoms who do not themselves have the symptoms.

Sporting Activities

The Schools' Sports Partnership has taken the decision to cancel all centrally arranged sports fixtures. Parents of children due to be involved will have received messages separately about this. In line with this, we have therefore taken the decision to cancel our Year 5 cross country event due to take place on 26th March. I appreciate that this will be disappointing for the children. If another date can be scheduled, we will try to do this, but given the likelihood of the length of restrictions, this is unlikely. Where possible, sports clubs will still run.

Other School Activities including Trips

The Government has issued new travel guidance for the education sector. This advises against all overseas education trips for children under 18. This does not apply to domestic trips, or overseas trips which are already underway.

The full guidance can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/covid-19-travel-guidance-for-the-education-sector>

We will make a decision on all forthcoming trips and other planned events as soon as possible and in line with current DfE and Public Health England guidelines.

The Site Team

We would like to say thank you to our site team who are monitoring soap levels in the toilets twice every day. For the past month, we have been instructing our cleaners to prioritise cleaning of door handles/plates, handrails and light switches daily. This is in addition to the already daily routines around cleaning of toilets, including the handles. In addition, our IT technician has been cleaning the keyboards and mice in the ICT rooms daily

Our Site Agent ordered stocks of hand sanitiser over two weeks ago, but we are still waiting for the delivery. Once it arrives, there will be supplies in the staff room and at reception. Teachers will be responsible for supplies in their own classroom, and will monitor use. Pupils may use the sanitiser, but sensibly and in moderation, and will be advised that it is an irritant. Handwashing is preferred.

Along with taking advice from our Health and Safety advisor, we continue to monitor the guidance and ensure it is followed.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Diana Fickling
Business Manager



Maxine Warner
Headteacher