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16th March 2020

TO ALL FAMILIES ACROSS THE LEARN TO LIVE FEDERATION











Dear All,

Following my letter dated Friday 13th March 2020, please find below an update as of today.

Understandably, we are seeing an increase in staff and pupil absences which we are monitoring carefully. We have **NO** confirmed cases of coronavirus at either Bidwell Brook School or Ellen Tinkham School. Two cleaners from Ellen Tinkham School that were tested last week **do not have COVID-19**.

Many are off sick due to a high degree of caution and the advice given by Public Health England. It is likely that under normal circumstances, a lot of those currently off would have come in to school.

We do urge people to stick to the Public Health England guidelines as they are designed to keep people safe. **PLEASE do not** send children into school who are unwell.

COVID19: Identifying the symptoms				
Symptoms	Covid-19 Symptoms range from mild to severe	Cold Gradual onset of symptoms	Flu Abrupt onset of symptoms	
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common	
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common	
 Cough	Common (usually dry)	Mild	Common (usually dry)	
 Sneezing	No	Common	No	
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common	
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes	
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children	
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common	
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No	

Due to staffing changes as a result of absences, on some days we may not be able to provide the timetabled curriculum. Our priority is to keep children safe, happy and in school for as long as possible. We are sure you will understand this.

As of tomorrow, Tuesday 17th March 2020, we have cancelled all trips, off site activities, swimming (including hydrotherapy) and residential, as a precaution. We will provide more information on this when known (such as refunds, rearrangements, when trips and visits will start again etc).

We are cancelling as many meetings as possible, including Annual Reviews, which we will rearrange after Easter. This is to reduce the number of visitors to the schools and increase the staff available to be with the children.

At the moment, clinics held at the schools will continue to run.

Please regularly check on the school websites and the Gateway app, where we will be posting regular updates.

If the schools close, it will be either because we are directed to do so by the Government or the Local Authority, or because we cannot operate safely.

Yours faithfully



Jacqui Warne
Executive Head

