



MAPLE TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Climbing the branches of success

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Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the announcements made by the government yesterday I wanted to keep you up to date with the measures we are taking in school and emphasise the guidance that has been updated.

The self-isolation period has now extended to **all** members of the family who live in the same house for a length of **14 days**: this is to make allowances for other members of the family contracting symptoms and the incubation period necessary. We are using these same timelines in school so would not expect any child to return within this timeframe for their protection and the protection of our school community.

We are aware that over the next few days there will be more information shared regarding the protection and isolation of vulnerable children and adults and that this will likely need a much longer isolation period. If you feel that your child is within the list and your child needs to be off for a prolonged time we will, of course, do what we can to support you.

For those children who are off as a precautionary measure, rather than being unwell, we have put together some information on our website to support them which can be found using this [link](#) or searching for the 'Home Learning Page' within the Pupils section (tab on the top right hand side of the screen). We understand that getting your child(ren) to work at home may be challenging but a number of websites that we use are very much game orientated which reinforces their learning. These can be used as a minimum, along with daily reading/spelling practice.

With regards to the 'social distancing' advice, we have made the decision to cancel the Easter bonnet assembly for Early Years and Key Stage 1 which was planned for Friday 3rd April. This will enable us to keep the children spread out, as far as possible, within the school day.

This is also a concern for drop off and pick up times as parents and children congregate on the playground. With this in mind, from tomorrow, all classroom doors will be open at 8.45am. Once your child is in the building, please leave the site swiftly. Staff will not be outside before school though senior members of staff will still be on the gates daily, should you have messages that need passing on to class teachers, or you can call in at the main office. This is another opportunity for us to mitigate the risks to all.

We are doing all that we can to ensure that children and staff are protected during the school day and we appreciate that these are alarming times. The rules regarding isolation will certainly have an impact on our school community; with regards to school closures, we'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.



I am sure you will also appreciate how very quickly the advice keeps changing and we are trying to keep abreast of these changes to ensure safe implementation. As and when there is significant advice to the public then I will communicate how this impacts on us here at Maple Tree but please do ask if you have any questions, though please also bear in mind that we are not medical professionals and we receive exactly the same guidance you do at the same time as you.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cath', written in a cursive style.

Cath Bainbridge
Headteacher