

Bere Regis Primary & Pre-School

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Headteacher:
Mrs Rachael Brown

10th March 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Parents,

We are all very aware that there is now an increased risk from Coronavirus as there have been confirmed cases in Dorset. Obviously, this is a worry for everyone in our school community and therefore I am writing to inform you of the steps that we, as a school, are taking to keep your child safe.

We are determined to keep the school free of COVID-19, and therefore would ask for your support in working with us to ensure good personal hygiene is maintained around the school.

What the school is doing:

- Ensuring children and staff are informed of the need to wash their hands frequently and thoroughly (20 seconds minimum) with warm soapy water or use hand-sanitiser gel (if soap and water are not available).
- Ensuring children and staff understand the importance of covering their mouth when they cough or sneeze (with tissues being disposed of immediately afterwards), and washing or sanitising their hands afterwards.
- Reminding children and staff to avoid touching their eyes nose and mouth.

The above have been taught to children during assemblies and is being reinforced in classes and during break times.

- Displaying posters in school to remind staff and children of good handwashing techniques and hygiene at all times; I am attaching them here for your reference.
- Ensuring toilets are kept clean and well-stocked up with soap, toilet paper and paper towels. We have asked all staff and pupils to be vigilant and report if these need replacing during the day.
- Ensuring surfaces such as door handles are disinfected daily by our cleaners.
- Providing access to hand sanitiser gel in the front entrance for visitors, main office, playground and dining hall.
- Ensuring suitable educational resources are available via Manga High, Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars, for children to access in the unlikely event of us having to close or partially close the school.
- Reading and following the daily updated advice from Public Health England and calling them directly if we need to discuss particular issues.
- Ensuring parents are kept informed of the current advice from PHE.

What we ask parents to do:

- Talk to your child about the importance of good personal hygiene (see first 3 points above).
- Remain calm. Contact 111 if you or any of your children develop symptoms of the virus (a cough, high temperature, shortness of breath)
- Inform us immediately if anyone in your family is being tested for COVID-19 or if you may have had contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID -19.
- Inform us if anyone in your family has recently returned from a Coronavirus hotspot (e.g. northern regions of Italy like Lombardo and Veneto).

What we ask staff to do:

- Follow the advice and guidance re. good personal hygiene (as detailed above)
- Inform school and contact 111 if you develop symptoms of the virus (a cough, high temperature, shortness of breath).
- Inform school immediately if anyone in your family is being tested for COVID-19 or if you may have had contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID -19.
- Inform school if anyone in your family has recently returned from a Coronavirus hotspot (e.g. northern regions of Italy like Lombardo and Veneto).

What we ask the children to do:

- Follow the advice and guidance re. good personal hygiene (as detailed above)
- Tell an adult if you feel unwell or are worried about Coronavirus.

If we all follow these simple procedures, we will be doing our best to keep Coronavirus away from our school and community. Currently, government advice is that education settings should remain open. We will advise you immediately should their position change in the coming weeks.

Thank you all for your continued support and commitment to keeping our community safe.

Yours sincerely,



Rachael Brown
Headteacher