



Whitehead
Primary School
& Nursery Unit

'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'

Contingency Plan: Coronavirus (Covid-19), March 2020

Context:

In light of the recent announcements school will remain open until we are directed otherwise. We will endeavour to maintain our routines and keep school life as normal as possible.

However, we have decided that:

- any trips (**Y2 parents will be refunded for the Fratelli's trip**), sporting events (**at the moment swimming will continue as planned**), musical events (**music lessons will continue as normal**), visitors to school, PTA events, parents' meetings (**Y6 parents will receive information on Seesaw regarding the transfer procedure**) etc that are planned between now and Easter will be postponed until further notice.
- After school activities are cancelled (parents will be refunded for any sessions which have been missed).
- Assemblies or larger indoor gatherings are cancelled.

School will, as far as possible, follow advice published by the Department of Education (DENI) and the Public Health Agency (PHA). As this is a developing situation, updated information can be found at <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>

Hygiene:

Pupils and staff will continue to follow advice from the PHA, particularly in relation to handwashing and disposal of paper tissues. This advice will be reiterated to pupils.

Cleaning:

In line with advice from the PHA, there are no particular requirements for the cleaning of schools at present. However, cleaners have been asked to ensure that handrails and door handles are cleaned regularly and that special attention is given to ensuring that soap is replenished daily in staff and pupil toilet areas.

Pupils or staff displaying symptoms:

I would ask all pupils, parents & staff to follow the updated advice from the UK's Chief Medical officer and Chief Scientific Officer:

'Anyone with a new persistent cough or high temperature is now advised to self-isolate for seven days, as the UK government moves to the "delay" phase of its plan to tackle coronavirus.'

Parents are asked to inform school by email info@whiteheadps.whitehead.ni.sch.uk or by phone **02893353280** as soon as possible if any household members have:

- (a) become infected, or
- (b) been advised to self-isolate for seven days

The identity of individuals who have contracted the virus will remain confidential.

Learning and Teaching:

In the event of a school closure, staff will continue to work to ensure as far as possible that pupils can continue with their learning. To this accord each child in Y1-7 will receive a pack of work which they can complete at home. Nursery will not receive a pack of work.

Y7 Trip to Morecombe

I am currently in communication with the travel company who have planned the trip however it is possible that we will have to cancel the trip. Unfortunately, parents could lose the £50 deposit. I will update Y7 parents as soon as possible.

Communication

Please be assured that I will keep you updated as much as I possibly can. As I have already said I will continue to act on the advice of the Department of Education and the Public Health Agency. Should the situation change dramatically in any way I will be in contact via text message. To this accord please ensure that Mrs Lowry has your most up to date mobile number. I will also use Seesaw & Facebook as necessary. I would encourage to check Seesaw as regularly as possible.

Mr J Loughins