



13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **William Barcroft Junior School Coronavirus (COVID-19) update**

I am writing to provide an update regarding the Coronavirus and to provide you with information about how our school is preparing for any possible disruption.

As I am sure you are aware from the news, the government is now focussed on trying to delay the virus. This is a constantly changing situation and as a school, we are receiving daily updates from the Department for Education on the latest advice from Public Health England, the Local Authority and Healing Multi Academy Trust.

The school is taking measures to minimise the chance of any risk of exposure to COVID-19, whilst trying to minimise any disruption to pupils' learning in the classrooms. We are making contingency plans in the event that the school is told by Public Health England to operate a full or partial closure.

### **Communication**

We will continue to communicate with parents and carers by:

- Text Message (we must have an up to date phone number for you)
- Emailed Letters and Newsletters (we must have an email address for you)
- Twitter (please follow @WBJJuniorSchool)
- School Website ( <https://www.williambarcroft.ne-lincs.sch.uk/> )

### **SATs Tests**

We understand parents and carers will be concerned about how this may impact upon pupils taking Key Stage 2 SATs. The advice from the government is to keep preparing for these tests as normal. Should we be told to implement any closure by Public Health England before these tests, we will ensure Year 6 receive plenty of practice materials to take home before any closure.

### **Staff Illness**

Should the school need to partially close due to a significant number of staff being absent, we will prioritise the pupils closest to their SATs tests and will continue lessons for pupils in Year 6.

## Pupil Illness

If your child is diagnosed with Coronavirus or they have symptoms and you have been instructed to isolate them then please report their absence to us over the phone and inform us that it is related to Coronavirus.

The school, the Trust and the governors would like to reassure you we are doing everything possible and request your patience and understanding as we deal with a rapidly changing picture. Please can you support us by emphasising the importance of personal hygiene to your child, especially the simple steps of washing hands more, the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' strategy or coughing or sneezing into your elbow joint. The latest NHS guidance regarding prevention or what to do if you are worried about a family member displaying symptoms can be found online at <https://111.nhs.uk/service/covid-19>. We request your full support as we try to keep William Barcroft Junior School safe.

If you have any specific queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01472 501777 or [office@williambarcroft.ne-lincs.sch.uk](mailto:office@williambarcroft.ne-lincs.sch.uk).

Please do not contact us to ask if the school is/will be closing – we will let you know as soon as we know or as soon as a decision has been made. At this busy time for us all, we really need to prioritise urgent telephone calls and emails.

**Please can you also ensure we have your correct and most up to date contact details including your mobile number and email address.**

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours faithfully



Claire Constantopoulos

Headteacher