



# QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

## Re: Coronavirus update

As you're probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at Queensway we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Oxfordshire County Council.

### What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given. This includes Breakfast and After School club.
- However all of the following will be suspended until Easter and then reviewed:
  - Class assemblies
  - Shared lessons
  - All trips and visits, i.e. Year 3 to Chedworth Villa, Year 5 to the Space Centre, Reception to Buckingham Railway and the Year 4 Viking Workshop
  - All externally run clubs, i.e. Drama, Dance, Hotshots and football
  - Music lessons through Music For Schools
  - Parent and student volunteers coming in to help
  - Frank Wise integration in 5LT
  - Swimming in 5JF
  - Non-essential meetings and training held on site, e.g. Governors and PTA meetings
  - Parents evening, including SEND review meetings already booked.
- We will of course be reimbursing families for any money they have already paid for the trips and visits listed above via ParentPay. The paid clubs will be carried over to next term.
- School led after school clubs will run as normal; Change for Life, SciArt and Cooking.
- Lunch time clubs will run as normal.
- We are also asking any essential visitors into school to sign a declaration form that they do not have any symptoms of the virus, haven't knowingly come into contact with someone with the virus or visited any of the category 1 and 2 countries.
- Pupils should attend school unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 7 days**:
  - a new, continuous cough and/or
  - a temperature over 37.8°
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by ringing the school office by 9am, clearly stating your child's name with an explanation of why they are off.

### What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a child becomes unwell whilst at school we are quickly removing them from the classroom whilst we call home for the child to be collected.



- The school continues to carry out a rigorous cleaning regime, using approved cleaning products.
- We have altered some practical arrangements in school to ensure that children are frequently washing their hands.
- We are providing anti-bacterial soap in all soap dispensers, although some parents have requested that their child has their own hand sanitizer gel- this is fine but they must be clearly labelled with the child's name on and they will be kept in the teacher cupboard due to the nature of the ingredients. Children will not be allowed to share their hand gel with friends.
- We are regularly teaching children how to wash their hands properly.

### **What we need you to do**

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to.
- If your child is in Years 1-6 check that your child has access to the Timetables Rock Stars and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure we're well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at some point). <https://ttrockstars.com/>

### **What happens if the school has to close?**

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school. In either case, we'll:

- Text parents immediately as well as sending an email. We will post this on the school website.
- We will use this method for notifying parents when the school re-opens too.
- We will inform you via the class blogs of work the children could do, such as recommendations of useful websites.
- Year 6 will be asked to work through the revision guides previously flagged to families.
- Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

### **If you have any questions**

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

It's a tricky time and we know you are worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mrs Sarah Horbury Jakeman  
Head Teacher