



34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs
Kent
CT10 1BY

Office: 01843 862 123
Fax: 01843 866 648

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following a number of enquiries to the school from concerned parents regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19), this is a really worrying time for everyone, and I thought it would be useful to send out a letter just to update you and to reassure you that we are taking appropriate measures at the school.

The school is monitoring closely the situation regarding COVID-19, and we have been following the government advice received via the Department of Education (DofE) and Public Health England (PHE), as well as our own local authority. As you will have seen from news reports that advice continues to evolve and the Government announced last week that we are moving from the Contain phase of the coronavirus action plan and into the Delay phase, in response to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

At this moment in time there is no instruction for schools to close, but if this does change, this may not incorporate special schools (we wait to hear clarification here). Additionally, the guidance for residential settings like the children's homes indicate that the closure of a residential setting is not recommended, and any self-isolation should in most cases occur in the normal residential home.

We have been liaising with Public Health England if there were to be a case at the school a risk assessment would be undertaken and the appropriate actions taken dependant on the particular circumstances, for example a young person or member of staff. We have also been liaising with our Local Authority to ensure that our own emergency plans are robust, and complete any additional planning that is necessary.

We are looking at ways that we can reduce the risk of the virus spreading at the school and ensure appropriate levels of staffing available to care for the young people. In the short term we will not be supporting any visits home that require staff support, and are also reviewing whether the Easter Short Term Breaks should continue. We will be contacting parents/carers individually if any activity affects their child. In the interim, all other activities are continuing as planned. Obviously, good hygiene is the best prevention and are promoting this as you would imagine, as well as additional steps from our housekeeping, care & education teams that the school & homes are thoroughly cleaned every day and are currently paying particular attention to tops of chairs, tables, light switches, door handles, and other main points of contact from young people and staff.

Headteacher: Sarah Dunn



I hope this helps & will update as guidance and situations change.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Dunn', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Dunn
Headteacher