



'To believe, to achieve, succeed together'

18th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19 Update

IMPORTANT

IF YOUR CHILD OR ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD SHOWS ANY SYMPTOMS OF THE VIRUS, PLEASE FOLLOW THE GOVERNMENTS ADVICE AND SELF ISOLATE.

Advice on absence:

- We will authorise and encourage (for **14 days**) self-isolation for any student who has a cough or a high temperature (above 37.8C).
- The same will be true for siblings of such students as guidance suggests that the whole household must self-isolate. Such absence will be deemed as authorised (classified as "Unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances").
- If a student needs to go home from school with symptoms (dry cough/temperature), we will send their sibling/s home at the same time (again in line with new government guidance). This will also be authorised.
- Vulnerable students (e.g. immuno-suppressed or asthmatic) or with pregnant family members/contacts in the household, will be given authorised absence.

School Closure

We do not intend to close the school unless directed to do so by the Department of Education and the Government. However, we may be left with no option but to close parts of the school should we experience staff shortages. If this is the case, you will be notified as soon as possible. Teachers may be asked to teach across two classes although there are obvious limits to approach. Everything possible will be done to keep school open. With this in mind, our plan moving forward is outlined below.

The Introduction of Social Distancing at Croughton All Saints CE Primary

From tomorrow, Thursday 19th March, we are introducing a series of controlled measures with the aim of limiting face-to-face contact in the school. Some of these measures may seem extreme but the health and well-being of the staff and your children is our highest priority at the moment.



Limiting the number of parents who come into contact with each other

We ask that all children come straight into their classrooms when they arrive at school in the morning instead of playing in the playground and waiting for the bell to ring. This will naturally mean there are no groups of adults waiting in the playground. Unfortunately, we are unable to change the end of day routines but I ask you to consider whether or not your child could walk home on their own or walk home with friends.

Parents are also asked to avoid coming to the office and to telephone in with any queries instead. If that is not possible, please wait at the outside door for a member of staff to meet with you there.

Assemblies and sports competitions

Whole school assemblies have been cancelled. Northamptonshire Sport confirmed that they have postponed all competitive fixtures between schools until further notice. All of our upcoming sports fixtures and tournaments have already been postponed. We will reschedule any planned events for later in the year.

Beaumanor Hall Trip – Years 3 & 4

As anticipated, we have received notification this morning that the trip on 25th/26th March has been cancelled. Refunds will be made to parents in due course.

Playtimes and lunchtimes

We will be staggering playtimes to limit the number of children on the playground at any one time. We will also be asking those children who have packed lunches to eat outside (weather permitting) or in their classrooms, in order to limit the number of children in the hall at any one time. The children will still be able to play outside once they have finished lunch.

Mothers' Day Gift Shop

Mrs Hankins will run the shop with small groups of children throughout the day to allow this event to take place. Please send £2 into school on Friday if you wish your child to purchase and wrap a gift for Mothers' Day.

Strategic Planning Meeting

A meeting will be held today with staff to formulate plans for remote learning. These will be available for families self-isolating and when/if the time comes to close the school. These will be shared with you before the weekend.

These are unprecedented, uncertain times causing stress for families. We will continue to be led by the Government, Chief Medical Officer and Chief Science Officer and hope that you can see the reasoning behind the introduction of these measures.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the usual channels.

Kind regards

Helen Goulder