



The Kite Academy Trust
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CEO: Mrs C Dickinson

18th March 2020

Dear Families,

Thank you for your understanding and support in these unusual and difficult times. It is important that we work together to make sure that all our children and communities are kept safe. We are making decisions for our staff and children using the advice from the government. We get these directives when they are announced each day around 5pm. The principle is to try to enable as many children to come to school for as long as possible to ensure their safety and well-being and enable basic services to continue, particularly health care. Currently that directive is that our schools remain open.

SELF ISOLATION

The academies will be strictly implementing the new Government directive provided on Tuesday 17th March in relation to self-isolation. **Should your child or any member of your family develop any of the symptoms of a new and continuous cough, high temperature of 37.8 or above or headaches, your child and all family members MUST self-isolate for a period of 14 days.**

Should your child be sent home from school with these symptoms we will insist that the same self-isolation procedure is adhered to. **Children will not be permitted to return to school until the end of the 14 day period as recorded on our school's database.**

All absences in this circumstance will be authorised and recorded as '*absence due to exceptional circumstances*'. Please ensure you telephone the School Office to inform us in the usual way of your child's absence.

All staff are required to adhere to this directive too.

We have a number of families and staff who are self-isolating across the Trust. There are two different reasons for this; either a person in the family has developed a cough and or high temperature or that they are in one of the vulnerable groups.

ABSENCE FOR OTHER ILLNESSES

The usual absence procedure applies for all other illnesses. There is no need for self-isolation for anything other than for the above. Please ensure you telephone the School Office to inform us in the usual way of your child's absence.

DAY TO DAY ORGANISATION

As you are aware, we are aiming for all academies to remain open. However, we are sure that you will understand that staffing is challenging at this time. We are reviewing the situation daily and will keep you updated.

Breakfast and after-school clubs will remain open in order to support our working parents.



As much as possible, we will continue to support all families, including continuing with any scheduled meetings.

NURSERY FUNDING

Today the government has agreed that they will continue to fund nursery places.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-childcare-offers-to-continue-during-coronavirus-closures>

CANCELLED TRIPS AND EVENTS

Unfortunately, all school trips have had to be postponed as the directive is to avoid any non-essential activities and extra travel. This does include swimming lessons.

Any monies paid for school trips or events will be held on your child's account and used for an alternative trip or event once rearranged in the future.

HOME LEARNING

If we are advised that we should close, your child's teacher will be advising you about possible home learning activities or websites that can help you at this time.

Of course, if your child is unwell, they should not be attempting to work but rather be focussing on getting better. However, I hope that our proposed home learning, will ensure that any children absent from school can be supported by you to access ongoing learning as needed. We are hoping to be able to send you regular updates throughout any absence.

We hope all of the above helps to reassure you of our constant attention to the information and advice we are receiving and how this may affect everyone here at The Kite Academy Trust. Like you, we are advised of any new guidance through the government's daily updates and we are revising our situation on a daily basis.

Please be assured of our ongoing concern for everyone's health and well-being. Thank you for all the support you are so kindly providing!

Yours sincerely



Christine Dickinson
CEO The Kite Academy Trust