

# Benhurst Primary School

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Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Coronavirus update

Following the recent developments with the virus and government announcements, I felt it important to update you from the school's perspective. We receive regular joint updates from the Department of Education and Public Health England which provides guidance and recommendations for education settings. It is this we use to guide our decision making.

In line with the current advice, we continue to remain open and operate as usual, albeit with additional care and work around basic hygiene for our children (e.g. hand washing) and greater focus on cleaning high-contact areas (e.g. toilets and door handles).

I am aware there have been suggestions that schools in England may be forced to close for a period. Currently, we do not have any information that this will happen but are mindful that this may be implemented at some point. With this in mind, I have asked teachers to develop work packs that the children would be asked to complete at home in the event of a closure.

Should we be instructed to close, we would send a text message to parents immediately to ensure you have as much notice as possible. I am acutely aware of the impact of an enforced closure, especially if limited notice is given.

Thank you for your support with this and also for the sensible and measured approach you continue to take. Having spoken to a number of parents in recent days, it is reassuring that you are following the official guidance and are not influenced by aspects of the media who are adding further challenge and concern to the situation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification regarding these matters.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Denchfield  
Head Teacher