



High Street, Workington, Cumbria CA14 4ES
Tel: 01900 604565
admin@ashfield-jun.cumbria.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs S Frost
www.ashfieldjuniorschool.co.uk

Workington & District Primary Heads Association

Chairperson: Miss Angela Quirk, Distington Community School, head@distington-comm.cumbria.sch.uk 01946 830526

Secretary: Mrs Sue Frost, Ashfield Junior School, head@ashfield-jun.cumbria.sch.uk 01900 604 565

Treasurer: Mr David Warbrick, Beckstone Primary School, head@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk 01946 830 423

School response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Dear Parent

Cases of coronavirus are predicted to increase. This means the likelihood of a pupil or member of staff testing positive or being in contact with a confirmed case and being advised to self-isolate is increasing. The current situation is that if there is a confirmed case at school then Public Health England will advise on the appropriate and proportionate steps to take. Where a pupil or staff member is self-isolating due to contact with a confirmed case the current national advice is that schools should remain open.

We are not aware of any cases that affect our school community currently. However, students **must not** come into school if they have any of the following symptoms:

1.
 - a. Fever
 - b. Dry cough
 - c. Shortness of breath

If any of these symptoms are present or you are worried in any way that you or your child may have contracted coronavirus you should contact NHS 111 immediately to seek advice. Please then notify the school about the action you have been asked to take.

I would like to reassure you that the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff is our top priority. Having carefully considered the current situation in Cumbria, we are going to take the following measures with immediate effect:

1. Parents meetings on the 23rd and 25th March may be cancelled depending on how the situation develops over the next week or so.
2. Any events after the Easter holiday such as Spring Fayre may be postponed until further notice.
3. Trips and visits will be assessed on an individual basis. It is important to stress that a decision may need to be made at short notice regarding trips.
4. Sports fixtures & competitions organised by external agencies may be cancelled.
5. We would ask you to consider carefully any travel arrangements you might be planning over the Easter holidays. Please be aware that the guidance about this, which can be found on the FCO website, frequently changes but it could mean that a period of self-isolation might be necessary on your return. Please notify us immediately at the start of the summer term if this is the case.

In addition to these actions, we have put in place a number of measures with the children, staff and visitors. This includes encouraging good hygiene and regularly ensuring the children wash their hands. We are teaching the children to wash their hands correctly using WHO guidelines. All visitors entering the building are being asked to wash their hands on arrival.

We will continue to monitor the coronavirus situation closely and follow the advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education. The Department for Education's advice page for schools can be found using the link below:



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

The most important advice is to limit the spread of the virus. Health-care professionals stress the importance of hygiene and hand washing. They recommend:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Catch it, Bin it, Kill it: Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin
- People who feel unwell should stay at home

Students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:

- After using public transport
- Before leaving home and on arrival at school
- After using the toilet
- After breaks and sporting activities
- Before eating any food, including snacks

We will continue to monitor this situation daily. If circumstances do change in anyway then we will contact you immediately with any arrangements that may have to be put in place.

Yours sincerely

THE HEAD TEACHERS IN THE WORKINGTON & DISTRICT PRIMARY HEADS ASSOCIATION

