



Goldenhill Primary Academy



Head teacher: Mr. S Martin BA (Hons).NPQH

"Everyone shines at Goldenhill"

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Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to inform you of our change in circumstance and our plans moving forward, as we do our very best to keep Goldenhill Primary Academy open safely.

The government has issued the following the guidance,

We are advising those who are at increased risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures.

This group includes those who are:

- aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (i.e. anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):
- chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
- chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
- chronic kidney disease
- chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis
- chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
- diabetes
- problems with your spleen – for example, sickle cell disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy
- being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)
- those who are pregnant

Note: there are some clinical conditions which put people at even higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. If you are in this category, next week the NHS in England will directly contact you with advice the more stringent measures you should take in order to keep yourself and others safe. For now, you should rigorously follow the social distancing advice in full, outlined below.

People falling into this group are those who may be at particular risk due to complex health problems such as:

- people who have received an organ transplant and remain on ongoing immunosuppression medication
- people with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- people with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia who are at any stage of treatment



- people with severe chest conditions such as cystic fibrosis or severe asthma (requiring hospital admissions or courses of steroid tablets)
- people with severe diseases of body systems, such as severe kidney disease (dialysis)

If we are aware that a child, a parent/carer or member of the family, who lives at the household, fits into any of the above, we will have contacted you to inform you of the specific guidance and to find out whether you are going to be following the government advice regarding 'Social Distancing' for an initial period of 12 weeks. If we have not contacted you and you feel that your child or family member (living in the household) does meet one of the above please contact the academy to discuss this with us.

If your child will be carrying out Social Distancing, meaning that they cannot attend school, this **will not** affect their attendance, as this is classed as an exceptional circumstance.

As you can appreciate the above guidance does apply to a number of staff here at Goldenhill and as a result they will not be in school from Thursday 19th March 2020. This has significantly affected the school's ability to operate as normal as a result we have had to reallocate staff to different classes within the school.

As a result, from the start of next week, week commencing 23rd March 2020, we can only provide a morning Nursery class. This will mean that children will still have their 15 hour provision but will not have the extended provision that we normally offer. Children will still start nurse at 9am but will need to be collected at 12:30pm, after they have had their lunch.

Please be assured that our staff will be doing their very best to protect you, your children and their education.

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging circumstances.

Mr. S Martin

Head Teacher

