



# Ashley Junior School

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We are getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at Ashley Junior School we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government.

## ***What's the current situation?***

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given
- **All school functions continue to run as normal**. This includes Breakfast Club, AJS Extra, After-School Clubs and any planned visits
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 7 days**:
  - A new, continuous cough and/or
  - A high temperature
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally, contacting the school office on 01425 616510 before 9:30am
- There are planned visits in the next few weeks to:
  - Marwell Zoo for year 6
  - Winchester Science Centre for Robins
  - Solar Farm for year 4

## **These will continue unless we receive other guidance or advice**

- SATs assessments are due to be completed in May for year 6
- The PTA have an Easter Bingo and Spring Disco planned.

**We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.**

## ***What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff***

- If a child is ill on the premises we will follow normal procedure. We will contact parents and recommend the child is kept off school and see how the illness progresses.
- We are providing a 'deep clean' in classrooms where there has been any illness (though not necessarily coronavirus)
- We are enforcing hand-washing at the beginning of school and at the end of each break

- We have led assemblies explaining what is happening and providing the facts so that children are well informed and less anxious. Children are given opportunities to discuss any concerns they may have.

### ***What we need you to do***

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via email ([adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk)) or telephone (01425 616510)
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It is an exceptional and worrying time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- Check that your child has access to Mathletics, Lexia or Reading Plus from home, and let us know if there are any issues so we can make sure we're well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at any point.

### ***What happens if the school has to close?***

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

- Text parents and use the Emergency Closure procedures so that parents can check on the school website and local radio
- Provide learning for children so they can continue their studies as best as possible from home.

**Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.**

### ***If you have any questions***

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

We are in tricky times and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

**IAN RIX**

**Headteacher**