



Alveley Primary School
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Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you at a difficult and challenging time. Can I start by reassuring you that we are receiving daily updates from the DFE regarding our actions during this period. We are following the DFE advice and their instructions for schools some of which is detailed below.

What we are doing: -

First, we are keeping parents, pupils and staff informed of the latest advice in what is becoming quite a dynamic situation in that information is changing on an almost daily basis. Second, we are acting on all advice and instructions given to us.

Latest advice that we are following in school: -

- We are emphasizing the heightened and expected hygiene routines with all pupils and staff. All pupils have been instructed on when and how to wash their hands and we have had additional PSHE work on this topic.
This includes frequently hand washing on entering the school building, during the school day and again before they leave us. Pupils were advised today on the routines and how they should follow these.
- We are requesting that if anyone in your family has had contact with someone returning from abroad, in a category 2 area, you must inform us immediately
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>
- We have intensified our cleaning routines for places such as work surfaces, computer keyboards and handrails in line with guidelines.

How you can help: -

- Please make sure that your child washes their hands before they come to school and on their return from school.
- We would like as many pupils as possible to bring in their own hand sanitiser please. This needs to be of a type with 60% alcohol or alternatively bring in their own liquid hand soap. This should be kept in school bags. We have plenty of soap at present, but you will be aware that supplies are running low in shops locally. It would be of great benefit to us if you are able to help in this way.
- Obviously do not send your child to school if they are ill.
- We ask that all parents follow the latest public health advice over illness too. If your child is unwell and displays the following symptoms:
 - ~ Cough
 - ~ Difficulty in breathing
 - ~ Fever

Please follow the COVID-19 advice and call NHS 111 and refer to the NHS UK website <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>. Please then inform us of the outcome. The government are not overly concerned about children as a group, but we are aware that many families have more vulnerable members within them. Indeed, Public Health England has stated that *“Generally, these infections can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease. There is no evidence that children are more affected than other age groups – very few cases have been reported in children”*.

We have been given clear advice on how to respond if a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in school and we have a Local Health Protection team who will advise us. Of course, we hope this will not become necessary, but we are ready to act as instructed in this circumstance.

These are unprecedented and challenging times for us all. We appreciate your support and you child’s support in making things as smooth as possible during these challenges, so that we can continue to operate as a school as well as possible.

Remember, all updates we receive are posted on the school’s website www.alveleyprimary.co.uk Your understanding and patience as we respond to PHE and the DFE instructions is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mr. O’Malley
Head Teacher