

Pool Hayes Primary

Bridgnorth Grove, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV12 4RX

Telephone: 01902 368144, e-mail: postbox@pool-hayes-p.walsall.sch.uk

www.poolhayesprimary.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Kelly Vaughan

Covid-19 Update

Dear Families,

The Government announced last week that the UK has moved from the containment stage to the delay stage of handling Covid-19. Today, they announced that school closures are a possibility that may need to happen "at the right stage" of the outbreak. In light of this, we have reviewed our current provision in order to ensure the safety and health of our children, staff and environment.

In discussion with our Chair of Governors we have made the difficult decision to move to self-containment. Therefore, from Tuesday 17th March 2020, Pool Hayes Primary will continue to be open for children on a daily basis but we will limit all external contact in order to help slow the spread of the virus by reducing situations that involve contact. School will be open daily for children, staff and essential visitors.

We are a busy school with many visitors entering the school building on a daily basis. Parents' evenings alone bring at least an additional 200 visitors into our school. This increases the risk of more germs coming into the school environment. Families could be entering our school feeling well and completely unaware that they are in the early stages of the virus. This increases the risk for our school environment and for our staff, who we need to be healthy and here! I know some families are also worried about external class trips and external activities.

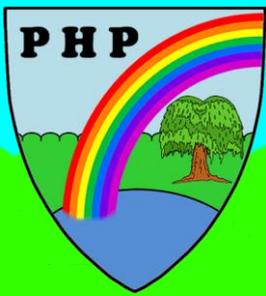
We have a very thorough cleaning system in school and can lower the risk for our children and staff, but when they leave site the risk of germ contamination rises and assessment of risk becomes more challenging. Self-containment means that a number of planned school activities have been cancelled, although if the national situation changes we would hope to reschedule them.

Events that are cancelled for the time being are: -

- All school trips (this academic year)
- Inter-school sporting events
- All inspire workshops
- All family lunches
- Parents' evenings
- All after school clubs
- Class Assemblies (closed to parents but will still take place with children and staff as the audience and will be filmed, we would look to post this in the relevant class area on Class Dojo).



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We are currently in communication with PGL regarding the Y6 residential visit planned for the 18th of May – we will inform you as soon they confirm the action they are taking with their centre at Boreatton Park.

As soon as we can get clear information about refunds, we will contact you.

None of these have been easy decisions to make. We are disappointed that we have to take this action because all visits/trips/clubs make a significant difference to the experiences, language and learning of our children. I am sure you will agree with us that we cannot be too cautious at this point in time, while we are being directed to keep our school open.

Parents' evenings are an important time of the term for communication between families and teachers - If any families have an important issue that they need to speak to their child's teacher about then we ask that you message them directly via Class Dojo, our teachers are happy to respond to any queries.

Our core aim is to keep the school open for children and staff for as long as we are directed to, through taking these steps we hope to keep our Pool Hayes Primary family fit and well. We shall continue to review the situation day by day and if the national picture should change we would aim to re-plan and reschedule cancelled events as far as possible.

We shall ensure families are updated as we receive the latest advice direct from the Government.

Thank you, all of you, for your support.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Kelly Vaughan



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