

Tuesday, 17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Covid-19 (Coronavirus) update

I am writing to you in response to the growing concern regarding the Covid -19 (Coronavirus) and to update you on the actions that the school is taking.

What we are doing

At present, Poltair School **remains open for all year groups**. We want to ensure that every child who is healthy enough to do so, has access to learning directly from their teachers. The school is taking extra measures to ensure that hygiene levels are high including additional cleaning throughout the school day; encouraging regular 20 second hand washing to take place; and having access to hand sanitiser in key areas.

We have already taken the decision to cancel all assemblies, non-essential events including fixtures, trips and visits. Our students are eating in a range of areas across the school to prevent large gatherings of people in one place. We have also significantly reduced the number of outside visitors coming on to our school site. Please can I ask that you try to avoid visiting the school unless absolutely necessary, as this reduces risks.

As a precaution, we have prepared work packs for Years 10 and 11 with a wide range of resources for each of their subjects. Today we have issued Year 11 with theirs and it will be our intention to issue Year 10 packs tomorrow. Years 7-9 will also be given a work pack which will include information for parents and instructions regarding how we will set work. We have taken the decision to be pro-active with this to reduce anxieties and to try to minimise the impact on the children who are understandably unsettled by the current situation.

If we take the decision to close the school, we will ensure that all parents/carers receive confirmation of this directly from the school. This will use our normal channels of communication- email, text and Facebook. We will be issuing work daily via Class Charts and so it is important that your child checks that they have access to this from home (we are also checking this with students in school). Communication between teachers and students will be via email and we will send out a list of email addresses and the best way of accessing email, should we need to.

Poltair School Trevarthian Road St Austell Cornwall PL25 4BZ

tel: (01726) 874520

web: www.poltairschool.co.uk

e-mail: enquiries@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk



What we need you to do

If you, your child or anyone you live with has the following symptoms you must follow [guidance to stay at home](#):

- A new, continuous cough and/or
- A high temperature (above 37.8)

If your child is unwell or is self-isolating, report this as you would normally by calling 01726 874520 and leaving a message. One of our staff will call you back.

If your child becomes unwell whilst they are at school, they will be seen by an Emergency First Aider to assess them and we will contact you.

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via secretary@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk or 01726 874520
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety

Please can I ask that you continue to work with us in support of the challenges that we face so that we can minimise the disruption for the children.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding any aspect of this letter, or indeed of any issues regarding the school strategy around the virus, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Claire White
Deputy Headteacher