



*The Best That We Can Be*  
**Devonshire Primary Academy**

Devonshire Road, Blackpool, FY3 8AF

Tel: 01253 478271

Email: [admin@devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk](mailto:admin@devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk)

Website: [www.devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk](http://www.devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr D.P. Simm BA (Hons) PGCE



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

I am writing to make you aware that a family member of pupils who have been attending school on a part time basis has been confirmed of having COVID-19. Therefore, after hearing about this, I wanted to reassure you that I have sought advice via The Sea View Trust, the Local Authority, the Department for Education (DfE) and Public Health England.

No members of the family involved have been on the premises whilst experiencing symptoms; therefore, following the advice provided, our school remains **open**. However, I appreciate that some of you may be seeking assurances and so this letter is to update you regarding the additional steps we are now taking to ensure that our school community remains safe.

- The pupils and their family will be self-isolating for 14 days as a precautionary measure and they will not be returning to school before this isolation period has ended.
- We have cleaned and disinfected surfaces and objects across the school thoroughly as part of our normal daily routine and, as a precaution, we have given special attention to all areas. We will continue with this regime to support with the prevention of any viruses spreading.
- As well as thorough cleaning, we are also continuing to:
  - Enforce regular hand-washing routines
  - Promote social distancing amongst pupils and staff
  - Teach our pupils about the importance of hygiene
  - Support our staff and pupils with any worries they may have about the virus

I would like to take this opportunity to offer a reminder to all our school community that if you (or any dependent relative) is sick or needs to self-isolate, please report this to school without delay. If you, or anyone you live with, have any of the following symptoms, you must follow government guidance and stay at home:

- A new, continuous cough and/or
- A high temperature and/or
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The NHS 111 telephone service (or online) is available should you need support or advice.

I do fully appreciate that this is a difficult and worrying time and that you may be concerned. However, please be assured that we have followed all the current guidance and have no current reason to expect any risk to the staff or pupils in our school community.

I will continue to keep you updated if there any changes. However, if you have any other questions or concerns, I would encourage you to contact me directly. In the meantime, thank you for your continued support.

*D.P. Simm*

Mr D.P. Simm  
Headteacher



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