Reigate School



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16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you're 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're 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 Reigate School we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Surrey County Council.

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 unless notified otherwise.

Children 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 temperature. If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by calling the absence line on 01737 245241.

We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.

What we need you to do

If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via e-mail <u>info@reigate-school.surrey.sch.uk</u> or by phone 01737 243166.

Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. <u>BBC Newsround</u> has regular updates for younger children and <u>YoungMinds</u> has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.

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)

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'll notify you via text, e-mail and by putting a message on our website. Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare.

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As part of our Coronavirus contingency planning our aim is to provide a sustainable model of support that enables children to continue progressing in their studies. If your child is required to self-isolate but is feeling well enough to work please encourage them to continue with their usual homework that will be set on Show My Homework. In addition to their standard homework your child may wish to complete further tasks on the websites listed below:

Maths - www.hegartymaths.com

Science - <u>www.educake.co.uk</u>

Languages - <u>www.vocabexpress.com</u> or <u>www.pearsonactivelearn.com</u>

General - <u>www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize</u>

If your child has forgotten their login details for any of these websites please email <u>info@reigate-school.surrey.sch.uk</u>.

Should the school close there will be a more extensive programme of work available on Show My Homework with a particular focus on those taking their GCSEs in the summer.

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue.
- <u>NHS</u>, if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use <u>NHS 111 online</u> 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 <u>travel advice</u>, if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead.

It's a tricky time 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 sincerely

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Mr Alexander Head of School