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13th March 2020

TO ALL FAMILIES, STAFF & GOVERNORS

Dear All,

I wish to inform you that we have a number of staff and children who have symptoms that could indicate the Covid-19 virus. Several people have been sent home today as a precaution. A number have been tested and I would stress that AT PRESENT, NONE HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED as having the virus.

Please can I remind you that anyone, child or adult, displaying symptoms MUST remain at home. The advice I received from Public Health England today says:

“Community infections will no longer be tested/confirmed.

A general rule of thumb is that anyone with a new, continuous cough or fever (above 37.8°C) should stay off for 7 days after their onset.

Contacts of cases do not need to be isolated unless they develop symptoms.”

On Monday 16th March 2020, Senior Leaders and colleagues from other services (Transport, Cleaning contractors, Health colleagues) are meeting to formalise emergency plans. This may include the need to close the school if we have insufficient staff to operate safely, but we sincerely hope to remain open for as long as we can. Therefore, as long as your child is well and displaying no symptoms, please send pupils into school on Monday. Both Bidwell Brook School and Ellen Tinkham School will remain open until further notice.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Warne".

Jacqui Warne
Executive Head

