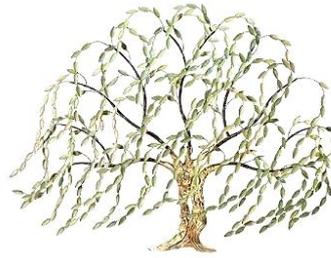


WILLOW TREE ACADEMY



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Mr A. Trueman – Chair of Trustees

Mrs J.K. Fearnley – Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 5th March

Dear Parent/Carer

Update COVID-19

The UK risk from the COVID-19 coronavirus remains moderate, and the risk to individuals remains low. To help maintain a low level of risk, Public Health England are working very hard to make sure people are tested where there is a reasonable possibility that they may have been in contact with the virus.

We are aware that the parent of a child at Monkwood Primary at Rawmarsh has tested positive for the Coronavirus. This person followed the correct advice, in contacting NHS 111 and was tested for the virus as a result of being in close contact of a confirmed case elsewhere. The family are currently self isolating (staying at home) for 14 days to minimise spread of infection.

This is understandably a very worrying time however Public Health England have confirmed that the risk of catching Coronavirus is low. We have been in regular contact with Public Health England, they are advising schools to remain open and their most up to date advice is to continue business as normal.

For the sake of clarity, according to government guidance, based upon current evidence, coronavirus presents with flu-like symptoms - a fever, a cough, or difficulty breathing.

Advice is that anyone displaying flu-like symptoms who has been in close contact with someone who has been told they have coronavirus (COVID-19), should self-isolate for 14 days.

Close contact with a confirmed case means:

- Living in the same house
- Face-to-face contact, for example, talking for more than a few minutes
- Being coughed on
- Being within 2 metres of the person for more than 15 minutes
- Contact with bodily fluids

Our normal practice, particularly at this time of year, is to actively encourage children to wash their hands regularly as well as promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it' when children have coughs and colds. We have increased our use of anti-bacterial cleaning and hand washing in school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Greenwood
Head of School