



GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mrs C Skingsley BEd Hons

Goldington Road, Bedford MK41 0DP

Telephone: 01234 326335

E-mail: admin@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk Website: www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk



16th March 2020

Dear Parents / 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 Goldington Green Academy we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government Bedford Borough 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. These include all before and after school clubs and Honeysuckle.
- Pupils 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 school's absence line or emailing the school office.
- All school trips that have been booked will go ahead unless the school is advised differently. No new trips will be arranged for the foreseeable future.
- Year 2 SATS are still scheduled to take place during 11th – 14th May and 18th – 22nd May.
- Year 6 SATS are still scheduled to take place during 11th – 14th May.
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a pupil starts to feel ill we will isolate the pupil as best we can and contact parents to come and collect ASAP.
- Encouraging regular hand-washing and providing hand sanitisers if necessary.
- Sharing information with pupils about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety.

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- If we don't hold an email address please inform the school office of an email address we can use to send work home if the need arises.



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- › 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.
- › Come and collect your child straight away if we ask you to do so.
- › Work will be sent to you electronically (either via email or accessible online). If you need resources such as paper or pens please let your child's class teacher know and we will do our best to provide these.

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:

- › Contact you via a text message or email. There will also be information on the school website
- › We will advise you in the same way when school is reopened.
- › We will let you know clearly how we are planning to set work for pupils during closure and what we'll expect parents to do – this might include plans for both short-term and long-term closure. This is why it is vital that we have your up to date email, as this is how we will send out work to you.

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- › School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- › [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) 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 [travel advice](#), 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.

Mrs C Skingsley

Head Teacher



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