Sunday 15th March 2020

Dear Parents and Staff of South Ascot Village School

**COVID-19 Update**

After current news, advice and moreover information afforded to me over the weekend, l wish to update on the current situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic and its effects on SAVS.

*We currently have one teacher, Mrs Winterbottom, in a period of a self-imposed 7 day isolation period, as she developed mild flu like symptoms early Saturday morning -14/03/20. We appreciate her precautionary, protective measures whilst wishing her well and hoping she feels better soon.*

You need not be unduly worried but I feel it is only fair to inform you as parents and staff members at South Ascot Village School.

**The school will be operating as usual on Monday 16/03/20**, and will continue to take direction and advice from the government and Public Health England.

As the government has outlined (as of 13/03/20) if you, or your child, has symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, do not leave your home for 7 days from when your symptoms start.

* this action will help protect others in your community while you are infectious
* plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home
* ask your employer, friends and family to help you get the things you need to stay at home
* stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home if possible
* sleep alone, if possible
* wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
* stay away from vulnerable individuals, such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, as much as possible
* you do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

**The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:**

* **new continuous cough and/or**
* **high temperature**

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection.**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Please inform the school as soon as you can if you or your family are in need of self-isolation so we can build up a picture of the current situation for our school and risk assess accordingly.

Hygiene of everyone attending school is something we all need to remain mindful of. Our toilets are currently checked several times a day to ensure that there is adequate soap for children and staff to use and we will continue to encourage them to use it appropriately when needed. The daily cleaning routine in the school ensures that high contact areas, such as door handles, are disinfected regularly.

On Friday the children were shown the NHS hand wash song to remind them of how to wash their hands effectively.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg>

**Please be advised that ALL PARENTS EVENINGS will be cancelled and will be replaced by mid-year written reports instead, as a precautionary measure, reducing unnecessary close contact with the wider community.**

We will inform all parents and staff immediately if and when the situation changes. In the event of an enforced school closure we will notify you at that time of how we will continue to ensure pupils are working on appropriate material and being supported by staff.

**Thank you for your continued support and understanding in this matter.**

**Miss Kate Rimell**

**Headteacher**

**South Ascot Village School**