

Rowlands Gill Primary School

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18th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Coronavirus

I continue to get daily updates from the DFE and am now receiving some information from the Local Authority too. The advice remains the same that schools should remain open and continue as normal, while carrying out continuous risk assessments.

Our Senior Leadership Team are meeting every morning and we are holding staff briefings every evening to stay abreast of the changing picture, ensuring that we are doing all we can to keep school as normal as possible.

Changes Made

One of our main aims at the moment is to support the Government's plan for social distancing so we are taking measures to minimise the number of visitors in school. This means the following changes have been made:

- Easter craft mornings and the FORGS Easter café have been cancelled
- Early Years Parents' evenings have been postponed
- Friday Praise Assemblies are cancelled - all children who were nominated for this week will still receive their certificate in a class assembly
- There will only be class assemblies as of today – no whole school gatherings
- The Music Service have cancelled all music lessons – you will receive further information about this if it affects your child
- The football tournament on Thursday is cancelled
- Swimming lessons for Year 3, Year 4 and the ARMs children are cancelled
- Skateboarding and Scooter workshop is postponed
- All after school clubs are cancelled as of Monday 23rd March
- Nursery children who are collected or dropped off at lunchtime, including the Under 5's Playgroup Nursery will use the main gate to the yard instead of waiting in the main entrance

Funky Monkeys After School Club and Breakfast Club are continuing. Parents are now requested to drop off and pick up at the main entrance, instead of entering the building. The Funky Monkeys bell should be used in the same way as normal and a member of staff will meet you at the entrance.

Visiting School or Collecting Children Who Are Poorly

Any visitors to school, including parents are respectfully requested to wait in the main entrance only and ring the bell for attention, if no-one is in the office.



SCHOOL
MEMBER

If your child becomes ill during the day with symptoms of Coronavirus, we will call the first emergency contact to come to school to collect them. We ask that when you arrive at school, you pull into the car park and phone the office. We will then arrange for the First Aider who is attending to the child to bring them out to the car for you. If we have to send a child home with the symptoms of Coronavirus, they (and the rest of the household) should be isolated following the Stay at Home guidance which is available online.

Similarly, if you have to pick your child up during the school day for any other reason, we ask that you call the office from the car park and we will bring your child out to you.

Home Learning (In the Event of School Closure) NOT YET!

We are preparing home learning packs in case we have to close school, at the request of the Government or Public Health England BUT there is no indication of this happening at this time. Should we have to close, we would distribute the home learning packs to the children who are in school for them to take home with them.

For those families who are now in isolation, we need to find a way to get packs to you, should this become necessary. To that end I would like to ask the parents of anyone who is currently absent from school, to make contact with a friend who has children at school to ask them to collect packs for them (and post them through their door at home). If you could organise this and let the office know who that has been arranged with, I would be really grateful.

I'm sure you can imagine how difficult this week is proving for us all and trying to figure out how to get packs of work to 233 children (many of whom are now absent from school) is an added difficulty. We have made the decision to produce our home learning packs as actual packs of work on paper, which the children can do without needing to be online or needing printing facilities, which is why they need to be physically collected or delivered by a friend.

I know this is an anxious time for everyone and I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the school and understanding of the difficult position we are in. We are really sorry to have to cancel so many things but have no choice given the circumstances.

Please continue to regularly check [eSchools](#) or the website <https://rowlandsgillprimary.org/> for further updates from the school. I realise that as quickly as I write these letters, the information I share can be out of date by the time it reaches you!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or the office.

Take care.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs L. Clarke

