



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Corona Virus and Advice Update from The GST Schools

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

We are writing to give you an update of our current position and our future plans regarding the Corona Virus Pandemic.

Currently, there are very few confirmed cases of Corona Virus in Newcastle, and while we know these numbers will increase, schools currently remain open and will do so until advised otherwise. All of our schools are in daily contact with the DfE, Newcastle Local Authority and Public Health England to ensure that we have the most up to date and reliable information.

Until further notice, if your child has a cough and/or a high temperature, they should be absent from school for at least 7 days and should follow the self-isolation guidance:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection). Please remember to inform school of the absence and let them know that you are self-isolating. If children become unwell while at school, we will contact you to come and pick them up. School staff will follow the same guidance and therefore we expect there to be an increasing number of staff absences while schools remain open.

It is likely that some school events will need to be cancelled over the next few weeks. Your child's school will contact you and let you know what these are. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated with this and we want you to know that we will only make decisions to cancel events because we believe that they could put individuals or groups at greater risk than is necessary.

In the event of school closure, we will inform you as soon as possible and each school will have information for you regarding any plans for learning from home. This will differ from school to school, but each school will certainly want to provide some continuity for learning and to provide you with some support during the closure.

In the meantime, please continue to follow advice from your school and Public Health England as found on the above link.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mrs Moore  
Regent Farm First School

Mr Ward  
Grange First School

Mr Adams  
South Gosforth First School

Mrs Massey  
Archbishop Runcie First School

Ms McKenna  
Broadway East First School

Mrs Ash  
Dinnington First School

Mrs McKay  
Brunton First School

Mr Stout  
Gosforth East Middle School

Ms Webb  
Gosforth Central Middle School

Mrs Turner  
Archibald First School

Mrs Lamb  
Gosforth Park First School