



Rotherhithe Primary
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16th March 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I am writing to you to help you understand the preparations we are making to support your child and you at school during the Covid 19 (Coronavirus) outbreak.

Rotherhithe Primary School continues to follow the advice of Public Health England (PHE) about keeping our school open and on maintaining high levels of hygiene in our schools. If anything changes in the advice given by PHE, we will inform you immediately. However, we understand that things are changing rapidly, and we want to help you to be prepared in the event that your child is off school, or we are instructed by the government to close.

1. The situation now 16th March 2020

Rotherhithe Primary School is open and will remain open until we are instructed to close by the government. If this is the case, we will contact you in writing, by text message, email or letter. What to do if you, your child, or someone you have recently been in contact with, is showing symptoms (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>) of Covid 19:

- If a **family member or close contact** is self-isolating **without symptoms**, your child should come to school
- If a **family member or close contact** is self- isolating **with symptoms**, please inform us immediately and your child should not come to school
- If a **family member or close contact** is **diagnosed with Covid 19**, please inform us immediately and your child should not come to school
- If a **child is showing symptoms or has been diagnosed with Covid 19**, please inform us immediately and your child should not come to school. At this point (as with any notifiable disease) parents and RPS will be acting under the instructions of Public Health England.

2. What to do if your child is kept off school because they are showing symptoms of, or have been diagnosed with, Covid 19

It is a good idea to start thinking about what you and your child can do if they are at home for an extended period of time.

- **Taking time off work to look after your child**

Speak to your employer if you have to take time off work to look after your child. They should have a plan for staff during this time.

If you don't work and are claiming Universal Credit or another benefit and are concerned about being able to meet your job seeking commitments, contact your job centre or work coach for advice.

- **Keeping your child engaged while they are off school**

Think about stockpiling some activity supplies now: arts and crafts materials, games, jigsaws etc. These can be picked up second hand from charity shops, and some libraries have stocks to borrow. Some ideas are below:

- Top Trumps
- Guess Who
- Monopoly
- Snakes and Ladders – can be fun to make your own board
- Playing Cards
- Boggle
- Risk (game for older children)
- Hamma beads (peg boards and beads)
- Glue sticks and PVA glue
- Coloured paper
- Craft bag of supplies
- Colouring pens and pencils
- Sellotape
- Jigsaws
- Chess
- Sudoku
- Crosswords
- Lined paper

Websites for learning

- Science: <http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/>
- Reading: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/>;
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/childrens-stories>

3. Accessing support from other organisations while your child is off school

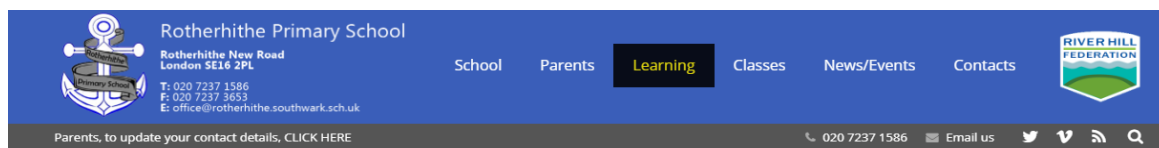
- <https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/>
- <https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/locations/>
- <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/southwark/>
- <https://www.pecan.org.uk/southwark-foodbank>
- <https://www.cschub.co.uk/>
- <https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/>

4. What to do if your child is at home because the government has instructed us to close the school

We will send home packs of work with each child and ask that you ensure they complete this work. We recommend lots of reading and educational websites such as Timestables Rockstars. We will also use the school website and dedicated year group pages to post work on a regular basis.

You can find direct home learning links already on our website:
<http://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/home-learning-links/>

You can also find subject related learning links under the Learning Tab and then the subject.
 E.g. Geography



Geography at RPS

Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality languages education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing.

It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.



- CHARACTERISTICS OF A GEOGRAPHER
- KS1 GEOGRAPHY LINKS
- KS2 GEOGRAPHY LINKS



After 7 days, if your child feels better and no longer has a high temperature, s/he can return to school. If there have not been any signs of improvement and you have not already sought medical advice, you should contact [NHS 111 online](https://www.nhs.uk/111/). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111.

A cough may persist for several weeks in some people, despite the coronavirus infection having cleared. A persistent cough alone does not mean your child must continue to self-isolate for more than 7 days – they can return to school. Further information can be found at the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Currently, all school trips will continue as planned. Staff will endeavour to take hand sanitiser with them on trips (if available) and will ensure children maintain good hand hygiene. If public health instruct us not to attend school trips or we do not have enough staff to manage a trip we will postpone the trip and reschedule for a later date – we will not be able to refund trip money, as the trip will already have been paid for.

Condover Hall trip: Currently, there are no plans to cancel this trip. If public health instruct schools not to attend residential trips in this country we will follow their advice. In this event we will work with Condover Hall to ensure that parents are reimbursed. The company have insurance in the event of this type of instruction.

We have posted a link on our website to NHS handwashing advice and the NHS handwashing song. Please share these with your families.

Please be aware that we are currently in the period of time when children are at higher risk of developing Scarlet Fever. These symptoms are very similar to COVID-19 but children typically develop a **rash** or very **flushed cheeks**. It is also very infectious. Children with Scarlet Fever may require antibiotics and you should communicate with your GP if you suspect they may have this condition, do not presume it is COVID-19.

We do **not** have any confirmed case of COVID-19 in school. We are following public health advice and any member of staff with a continuous cough and or temperature is self-isolating.

We will continue to operate the school as normal until we are instructed otherwise.

Any general updates will be posted to the website. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

If you require a copy of this letter please request one at the school office.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Christiansen
Head of School