



Dorchester Learning Centre
Monkton Park
Winterborne Monkton
Dorchester
Dorset
DT2 9PS

Telephone: 01305 261213
Website: www.dlconline.co.uk

Headteacher: Phil Midworth

Date: 16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

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. As things stand there will not be a blanket closure of schools in England at the moment.

However, some very clear advice has been given:

Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should stay at home for 7 days**:

- a new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly
- a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back

If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by contacting the school office on 01305 261213.

If the symptoms continue or worsen please use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.

If someone in your family demonstrates the symptoms of coronavirus, DLC would recommend that all members of the family self-isolate for 7 days.

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

A recent deep clean of the school and additional cleaning regime.

Additional access to hand hygiene materials.

Extra pastoral support for students and advice on coronavirus.

We will send children home for seven days if they are showing symptoms.

The **planned parents evening on Thursday 26th March is cancelled** and you will receive a written report about your child's progress. If you would like more detailed feedback please contact DLC and we will arrange for a telephone conversation with their tutor.

What we would like you to do:

If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.



Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. If you would like support with this please do contact the school.

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. We have created a plan if this is the case and will try our best to provide continued schooling/pastoral support for all students. 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, however if you don't have access to the internet or computer facilities could you please let the office know.

If you have any questions

Please consult the:

[NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use the [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

We are taking these measures to delay the spread of the virus and hope that parents and carers understand and support why we are having to do this given the unprecedented circumstances.

It is a complex and difficult situation that all people are faced with at the moment and the advice is constantly changing. I would urge you to discuss any concerns with me using the following methods:

Email- p.midworth@dlc.dorset.sch.uk

School Office- 01305 26213

School Mobile- 07596 275007

I hope that as a school we can support everyone in this difficult time and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

P Midworth

Phil Midworth
Headteacher

