

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In recent days we are following a changing national picture in respect of the growing Coronavirus Pandemic and, as a school, we are preparing for the possibility of a partial or complete closure.

The situation for South Somerset Partnership School is;

- Currently, schools are not closed.
- All public health measures are in place, including handwashing facilities and regular cleaning with anti-bacterial cleaner.
- Tissues are available and pupils are encouraged to sneeze and cough into them and dispose of them safely.
- Pupils due to take public exams and tests in the summer term (Year 11, Year 6 and Year 2) should carry on working to make sure they are well prepared for these.

Additional advice at the end of last week suggested that any pupil who has a new, persistent cough or a high temperature should be isolated for 7 days. **If your child shows these symptoms, please do not send them to school.** If we observe any of these symptoms at school we will ask you to collect your child immediately and to isolate them for 7 days.

We have observed a very small number of pupils who may not be able to adhere to the guidelines set out by Public Health England and, in these cases, **we will insist that parents and carers isolate their child in order to ensure the safety of the rest of the community.**

A number of children and young people at SSPPS are placed with us because they have medical needs and, in these cases, you should contact your healthcare team or GP and take additional advice. There will be no impact on your child's attendance recording if you are advised to isolate.

It is possible in the coming days that we will be subject to school closure and either a partial or a complete lockdown, as we have seen in many of our European neighbours.

You can help us by

- letting us know if you have changed your contact details
- providing us with an email address which is checked regularly if you haven't already done so
- making sure you know how to access our school website [www.ssps.org.uk](http://www.ssps.org.uk)

We are planning for this and **further information will be shared via our website** and through telephone contact should the situation change.

Please be assured that we are following all advice from Public Health England and we keep the safety and well-being of our pupils at the centre of our work at SSPPS.

Thank you for your ongoing support during this difficult time



Headteacher