

13th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

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. We're getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at Little Lever we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Bolton Local Authority.

What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given
- All school functions continue to run as normal
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 7 days**:
 - a new, continuous cough and/or
 - a temperature
- **If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by contacting the school. We ask that you inform us whether or not you have decided to self-isolate for 7 days.**
- We have cancelled all upcoming trips
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we're doing to protect and support students and staff

- If a student feels ill with the symptoms described above we will isolate them in school and ask that a parent / carer comes to collect them (preferably someone who will not be vulnerable to catching the virus... over 65 years old and/or an underlying medical condition)
- Ensuring hand-washing and educating students how to wash their hands. Hand sanitisers are currently in short supply and we would advise that if you have hand sanitisers available that your child brings one into school. (please make sure these are 60%+ alcohol in line with the guidance from Public Health England)

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.

In either case, we'll:

- Inform you via the front page of our website and Facebook as soon as possible before the start of school.
- We will let you know via our website, Facebook page and text message when the school will re-open
- Inform you of how you can access our online and home learning strategy whilst the school is closed. This will be available via our website. For those families who do not have internet access we will find a way to support you with this. We would ask that you inform us using the reply slip below if you do not have internet access.

Principal: Mr D Mckeon

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Little Lever
Bolton
Lancashire BL3 1BT

Tel: 01204 333300
Email: info@little-lever.bolton.sch.uk
Web: www.little-lever.bolton.sch.uk

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.

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via telephone on 01204 333304 or email info@little-lever.bolton.sch.uk
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. Situations like this can be unsettling for children and we should make sure they feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with any concerns they may have.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- Check that your child has access to the internet from home, and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure you're well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at some point)

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 [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
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on your families and our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to support each other through what may be a difficult period ahead. We will do all we can to help and support you and your children.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dominic Mckean

Principal