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**Head teacher: Mrs Emma Cornhill.**

20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to let you know that we have two **unconfirmed cases of** Coronavirus amongst staff- Mr Wynne and our school cleaner/caretaker. Both are self- isolating which is government advice. We also have a family who are self- isolating.

Frustratingly, the DfE are clear that we cannot close

nor have a deep clean. Once we have a confirmed case, we can access public health and they will allow a deep clean. We informed a handful of families considered to have vulnerable children/ circumstances, on hearing this news this morning so they could decide how to proceed. We realise that this is unsettling and staff, governors and myself are extremely frustrated about the lack of information and decisions being taken. The DFE were also clear that Parents cannot keep their child away and this should be unauthorised if they do so. The Governors and I however, do not agree and we are leaving the decision to you. In terms of risk, Mr Wynne does not work Fridays so has been away from the school for three days already and the caretaker has had little contact with children as he works after school.

However, please try and rest assured that we are doing all we can within school which until now has been stopping as many visitors to school and cleaning door handles, light switches, PC’s etc. We are having a meeting after school today to see what else we can do which will probably include stopping parents from entering school from tomorrow morning and spending more time disinfecting after school ourselves. We will also form a plan for how to keep open with reduced staffing in the future when the virus is at its peak given that schools are still expected to remain open. We will let you have this as soon as we can so that you are as clear as possible about what is being done.

Updated advice is posted on the school website under ‘Information for Parents’ as we have it. We are also considering using email as a means of communicating with you quickly and ensuring everyone is up to date. Texts only allow a small amount of information and newsletters may be missed by people away from school. We will need your consent to allow this to happen though due to GDPR regulations.

Also, all this is subject to change and advice is changing hourly! If we get any confirmed cases, we will let you know.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Emma Cornhill

Head Teacher