

Wednesday 18th March, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Updated government guidance, regarding the new restrictions on social contact and self-isolation, has already had an impact upon our school community. The advice, aimed at protecting the most vulnerable groups at risk from the coronavirus pandemic, has prompted some families to have to make some difficult decisions about school attendance.

An increasing number of pupils and their families are now self-isolating and I expect this number to increase in the coming days. Although Bowmansgreen continues to have no confirmed, positive cases of COVID-19 amongst pupils or staff, the local picture is changing. Parents and staff are understandably worried. Some school staff have now also had to make the decision not to attend school, based on the new guidance or medical advice.

It is very likely that whilst school remains open, we will have to become more flexible and creative with how we organise staffing. In the coming days and weeks, classes may have to merge and teachers might have to teach outside of their current year groups. We want to avoid a situation where classes or year groups are not able to come into school due to staffing levels but this might also become a realistic option. Much will depend upon the rate at which pupil numbers fall in relation to staff numbers and which classes and year groups are affected.

We will endeavour to maintain stability and consistency for your children as far as we can and we will always put the health and safety of pupils first.

We continue to follow the information and advice from Hertfordshire County Council and Public Health England and do all that we can to minimise the spread of the virus.

These are unprecedented times and we appreciate your support and understanding whilst we make some difficult decisions in the best interests of our school community.

Yours sincerely

Ms. A Lippa Headteacher

'Inspiring, nurturing and achieving excellence together'

Telephone: 01727 767772, Fax: 01727 767770, E-mail: admin@bowmansgreen.herts.sch.uk