

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents

This letter is to update you further on our work to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. It is a continually changing picture with information updated daily. We are working hard to interpret guidance quickly but carefully and provide information to parents. We appreciate this means you are receiving information each day. We will continue to keep this concise and relevant.

We have now established a dedicated page on our website where we have placed key information and will place copies of all letters and guides. Please visit -

<http://follifootandspofforth.co.uk/coronavirus-updates/>

Our first priority is to follow the advice from Public Health England and The Department for Education. The government has the best overview of the situation and they are issuing regular updates to school leaders that respond to the rapidly changing situation.

At present the most current key guidance is;

**Everyone in the UK is now being advised to avoid "non-essential" contact with others and "unnecessary" travel.**

Based on the changes implemented from Monday, regarding essential school activities only, we are in line with this advice.

**People are now being advised to stay at home for 14 days if they, or anyone in their household, has either a high temperature (37.8 degrees or above) or a "new and continuous cough"**

Our interpretation of this is that any child living in a household where any member (adults or children) of that household has either of these symptoms should not come to school for 14 days.

Based on Monday's advice to avoid 'non essential' contact with others the decision has been taken that the Year 3&4 Spofforth children will not undertake the remaining swimming sessions. Although learning to swim is an essential life skill and a statutory part of the national curriculum the children have completed 9 weeks of the 12 week programme. There is also scope for children to continue their swimming tuition in the future when it is safer to do.

Parents wishing to claim a refund on the proportion of their voluntary contribution may do so if they wish by emailing [admin@spofforth.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@spofforth.n-yorks.sch.uk). We will process refunds as quickly as possible however as I am sure you can imagine there are a number of pressing administrative functions at this time. The planned swimming for Year 3&4 at Follifoot for the summer term will be kept under review.

We understand that as a result of following the guidance regarding isolating households where any member of the household has symptoms has resulted in a number of children being at home. We have given careful consideration as to how we can support the learning of children at home while schools remain open.

As I am sure you will understand while schools are directed to remain open our staffing resource, which has been impacted on by the advice for households to isolate, must be directed to the priority of remaining opening. This leaves extremely limited capacity to undertake additional work.

While schools remain open the maximum we are able to do is direct parents to sources of ideas for work that can be undertaken. We would direct all parents to revisit their child's curriculum overview for this term including the writing journal ideas –

<http://follifootandspofforth.co.uk/homework/>

### Follifoot Primary School

Please click below for up to date Class Curriculum overviews:

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 1](#)

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 2](#)

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 3](#)

### Spofforth Primary School

Please click below for up to date Class Curriculum overviews (Class 1 send weekly updates with the children):

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 2](#)

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 3](#)

[Spring Curriculum Overview Class 4](#)

This page also has information about the key learning in maths for each year group

[Maths-40-Home-Yr-R](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y1](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y2-](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y3](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y4](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y5](#)

[Maths-40-Home-Y6.](#)

We would also direct you - <http://follifootandspofforth.co.uk/learning-zone/> This page has links to some key useful websites. The 'Topmarks' website in particular is very helpful as ideas can be searched for based on year group, subject and theme/topic.

At the end of this letter I have included an additional list of websites which we hope you find helpful. I have also copied the information regarding a free subscription offer for a popular education resource website that was included in yesterday's Scenario Planning Information for Parents document.

If you have a welfare or safeguarding concern or are struggling while school is open and your children are at home we are here to help. Please direct any welfare or safeguarding concerns to the appropriate school office.

Despite the challenges so far there are even more challenging times ahead and the advice to stay open may well change at some point. If it does, we will do all we can to provide some learning opportunities for children during any sustained closure. We have outlined these in our Scenario planning information for parents - <http://follifootandspofforth.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-Scenario-Information-for-Parents.pdf>

We must not be under any illusion, however, that anything like normal service can be maintained if schools are forced to close. We will have staff affected by the virus who are unable to work from home and we cannot plan for every eventuality. If staff are fit and well they are likely to have dependents to care for. More staff may well have to self-isolate and the service we are able to offer may vary day to day. What I can assure you of is that we will do our best to support the children and families we serve.

This is a time of national crisis but by working together we can, and will, get through this. But we need your support and I would ask you to help us by:

- Encouraging your child to follow the guidance re hand and nose hygiene
- Not sending your child to school if they have a fever or persistent cough
- Supporting the whole staff team as we make and implement difficult decisions in challenging times
- Reading carefully and following all the advice that comes home from school
- Only contact the school office when absolutely necessary
- Address all non-urgent issues via email to either [admin@follifoot.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@follifoot.n-yorks.sch.uk) or [admin@spofforth.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@spofforth.n-yorks.sch.uk).
- Showing kindness and respect to our school staff as they work under difficult conditions to support our children

I know this will be a very worrying time for you and your family and what happens at school will have a direct impact on you and your day to day life. We will do all we can to work with you as well as supporting the dedicated staff who look after your children at school.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I am grateful for your support for our schools.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Griffiths Headteacher.

## Twinkl Access – Information direct from Twinkl

Twinkl (a popular education resource website) is offering every teacher in England access to all Twinkl resources with a One Month Ultimate Membership, totally free of charge. They are also extending this to every parent and carer so children can still have access to high-quality learning during any periods of disruption.

Setting this up is really easy to do - go to [www.twinkl.co.uk/offer](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/offer) and enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

It's easy to arrange access yourself through our website. If you do have any questions please get in touch with our TwinklCares team. As we are supporting people globally please bear in mind that we are receiving a large number of enquiries so please only get in touch if your enquiry is of an urgent nature at [twinklcares@twinkl.co.uk](mailto:twinklcares@twinkl.co.uk)

The following website list has been kindly shared by a home school group. These have not been 'vetted' or checked by our Federation but are shared in good faith at this time.

Easy arts and crafts for little ones	<a href="https://www.redtedart.com">https://www.redtedart.com</a>
The School Run – English and Maths worksheets	<a href="https://www.theschoolrun.com/">https://www.theschoolrun.com/</a>
Creative art and craft activities for the very youngest	<a href="https://theimaginationtree.com">https://theimaginationtree.com</a>
Educational online games	<a href="https://toytheater.com">https://toytheater.com</a>
Dorling Kindersley Activities and Quizzes	<a href="https://bit.ly/2lQkcB9">https://bit.ly/2lQkcB9</a>
Educational Videos	<a href="https://thekidshouldseethis.com">https://thekidshouldseethis.com</a>
You tube videos on many subjects	<a href="https://thecrashcourse.com">https://thecrashcourse.com</a>
As above, but for younger children	<a href="https://m.youtube.com/user/crashcoursekids">https://m.youtube.com/user/crashcoursekids</a>
Science awards you can complete at home	<a href="https://www.crestawards.org">https://www.crestawards.org</a>
Digital enterprise award scheme	<a href="https://idea.org.uk">https://idea.org.uk</a>
Free challenge packs and other downloads	<a href="https://www.pawprintbadges.co.uk">https://www.pawprintbadges.co.uk</a>
Computer programming	<a href="https://blockly.games/">https://blockly.games/</a>
Creative computer programming	<a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/explore/projects/games">https://scratch.mit.edu/explore/projects/games</a>
Engaging educational videos	<a href="https://ed.ted.com">https://ed.ted.com</a>
Activities and quizzes for younger children	<a href="https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/">https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/</a>
Learn languages for free	<a href="https://www.duolingo.com">https://www.duolingo.com</a>
Free science lessons	<a href="https://mysteryscience.com">https://mysteryscience.com</a>
English language learning	<a href="https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/find">https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/find</a>
Lots of book type resources	<a href="https://oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home">https://oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home</a>
History projects (secondary?)	<a href="https://www.bighistoryproject.com/home">https://www.bighistoryproject.com/home</a>
Geography games	<a href="https://world-geography-games.com/world.html">https://world-geography-games.com/world.html</a>
Blue Peter badges	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges">https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges</a>
Free art activities	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/artfulparent/">https://www.facebook.com/artfulparent/</a>
Making activities	<a href="https://www.tinkercad.com">https://www.tinkercad.com</a>
Prodigy maths	<a href="https://www.prodigygame.com">https://www.prodigygame.com</a>
Listening activities for younger ones	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio">https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio</a>
Outside in the garden	<a href="https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives">https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives</a>
Church of England has produced resources for collective worship and other support materials for families	<a href="http://www.going4growth.com/growth-in-faith-and-worship/faith-in-the-home">http://www.going4growth.com/growth-in-faith-and-worship/faith-in-the-home</a>