

Tunstall Nursery School & Children's Centre



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Monday 16th March 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

I am writing to you again in relation to coronavirus in order to provide you with updated information. We have no confirmed cases of coronavirus in school at the current time.

DfE

The Department for Education (DfE) coronavirus helpline continues to be utilised as a source of information for schools and parents.

For your ongoing reference, please find the helpline contact information below:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

When we contacted the DfE helpline, they advised that anyone who has a temperature of 38 Celsius (100.4 Fahrenheit) or more, or a new, continuous cough must self-isolate for 7 days. If your child presents with either of these symptoms, please advise a member of the office staff. Please note, families should only follow the self-isolate advice if they have the specific symptoms mentioned above. If your child does not exhibit these specific symptoms, they need not stay at home, even if they have a runny nose or other symptoms associated with colds or similar viruses.

There are no plans for schools in England to close at this time. Rest assured, we do have contingency plans in place for any partial or full closure of the school if this becomes necessary, including supporting parents to work with their children at home. The DfE continues to send guidance to all schools on a daily basis.

NHS

Please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for the latest NHS information on coronavirus.

Gov.uk - Department of Health and Public Health England

The Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and Public Health England (PHE) are leading the UK government response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

You can get up-to-date information about the situation in the UK and guidance for the public on the risk from Coronavirus by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>.

Nursery Actions

In addition to raising awareness with children regarding the importance of regular and thorough hand washing, the nursery is reducing the number of all unnecessary visitors into the school. To this end:

- Parents evening on 18th March 2020 will be rearranged for a later date
- There will be no Welcome Wednesday sessions or Twos sharing days until further notice.
- Parental workshops planned for 18th March will be cancelled and held at a later date

In addition to this, the school is:

- Preventing parents from entering the nursery to drop off or collect their child until further notice.
 - **Twos Room** children will **enter and exit** from their usual door.
 - **Three/Fours Room** children will **all enter** via the **Green Room**.
 - **Red Room** children will **be collected** from the **Twos Room door**.
 - **Green Room** children will **be collected** from **Green Room door**.
- Staff will be available to assist. If you have any queries regarding this please contact the school office.
- Utilising a visitor disclosure form – all essential visitors to the school who will be on site for a prolonged period of time, will be required to complete a form detailing any suspected symptoms and recent trips abroad that have been taken.
- Cancelling all educational visits until further notice
- Ensuring additional cleaning of resources and table tops is taking place

There are several rumours circulating about coronavirus; please ensure that you refer solely to the above sources of information to avoid spreading misconceptions which could cause undue panic.

The nursery will only be following guidance issued by DfE, Public Health England and NHS or other government organisations in relation to coronavirus.

Please could we ask you to remind your children of the importance of washing their hands regularly and thoroughly, both at nursery and at home.

I hope the information above will reassure you that the nursery continue to act in the best interests of all within the school community. Thank you for working closely and supportively with us in these unprecedented circumstances

Yours sincerely,

The Tunstall Team