

**Birchfield Community Primary School**  
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Head Teacher: Mr Richard Culham B.Ed Hons

'One school, learning together'

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13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: CoVid-19 Pandemic**

As you will be aware from the media the Government announced yesterday that schools will remain **open** as the UK has moved to the 'delay' phase in response to the Coronavirus.

Understandably there are many concerns and the biggest issue currently is around school partial and full closure.

Current guidelines are that people should self isolate for seven days if they show symptoms which are:

- A new continuous cough and/or
- A high temperature

Otherwise the children should be at school.

This may have an impact on our ability to open part or all of the school. If there are staff shortages and I decide that it is not safe to open the school then it will close until it is safe to re-open. It is important to be aware that this decision for all schools, will be based on whether or not it is safe to open and not because of any virus diagnosis in the school.

The Government's advice for all educational settings is that a school will stay open even if there is a confirmed diagnosis in school in which case we will be contacted by the local Public Health England Health Protection team who will advise on the appropriate actions.

In the mean time, we continue to encourage the children at all times to practice good basic hygiene.

We are following the Government advice on healthy practice and self-isolation. If you feel it is necessary at any point to self-isolate your child please let us know so that this can be recorded appropriately on our attendance system.

The priority in all our decision is always the safeguarding of our whole community. We are grateful for the support and understanding shown by all of our parents and carers to date.



If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Culham'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Mr Culham  
**Headteacher**