



Abbots Ripton Church of England Primary School
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Headteacher : **Mrs Claire Matthews**
Interim Assistant Head Teacher : **Miss Slater**
Interim Assistant Head Teacher : **Mrs Wilcock**

Coronavirus Update

13th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We continue to receive daily updates from the Department for Education (DfE) about the Coronavirus and Cambridgeshire Local Authority is also in touch with all schools regularly.

Whilst there has been much in the media about schools closing, the instruction from the DfE continues to be that schools remain open unless instructed by them, or Public Health England.

However, the advice on self isolation has changed and the new advice is that, regardless of travel history, people should stay at home for seven days if they have either:

- a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- a new continuous cough

Further information is available on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We will, of course, support parents in implementing this guidance and so would urge you to keep your child at home if they have either of these symptoms.

At school we have put together a risk plan relating to the virus. This plan is constantly evolving according to latest information/advice. It includes the decision making process which would take place if we have a number of staff absent due to illness or self-isolation. We would be unable to remain open if staffing levels drop below a safe level and this decision making always includes the Chair of Governors and our Education Advisor in the Local Authority. We will, of course, inform parents as soon as we can via email and our school website if this situation should occur. Please see a separate letter regarding learning at home in the event of isolation or school closure.

We continue to remind children about the importance of washing hands thoroughly using soap and warm water. We have also asked that they carry a tissue in their pocket at all times to catch coughs and sneezes and to wipe runny noses - and then put tissues in the bin. Our cleaner continues to do a thorough job every evening, paying particular attention to door handles, surfaces and toilet areas.

Thank you for your support and understanding at this time. We know that many of you are anxious and we will do our best to keep you informed with the most up-to-date information as and when we receive it.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Matthews'.

Mrs Matthews
Headteacher

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.

