

EDUCATION AUTHORITY SOUTHERN REGION

Principal

Mr K D Campbell B.Ed. (Hons)
PQH(NI)



DRUMHILLERY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parent,

You will appreciate that these are difficult and challenging times for everyone as we seek to adapt to the rapidly changing coronavirus situation.

We wish to reassure you that the school is following guidance issued by DE and the Public Health Agency. Children have been made aware of the importance of washing hands regularly with soap and water and of using tissues when sneezing or coughing. Our caretaker, Mrs Keys, has been working very hard to ensure that the school is stringently cleaned every day, especially touch points such as door handles, desks, computer keyboards etc.

As a precaution we would also ask that children displaying any of the following symptoms are kept at home:

- a high temperature – if they feel hot to touch on chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means they've started coughing repeatedly.

Please note that the very latest guidance (as of 16 March) states that anyone living in the same house as someone with the above symptoms should also stay at home.

There is also additional guidance on the PHA website regarding children with asthma and other relevant conditions, which parents may consult if applicable. We do also wish to protect the elderly where possible so would advise parents to use discretion before asking grandparents to collect or mind children under current circumstances.

In view of the likely closure of schools soon all families will receive a Home Learning Pack this week, with relevant instructions from each teacher. This work should only be completed if schools officially close and includes approximately 2 weeks' work.

As school closures are likely to last for a considerable period, teachers will also be planning activities for the longer term. To facilitate this planning, we have decided to bring forward 2 Staff Development Days from later in the year to next Monday and Tuesday (23-24 March). Therefore, school will be closed on both these dates. We will communicate with parents at a

later stage as to how the planned work can be accessed. The BOG are fully aware of and support these arrangements.

Schools events have obviously been greatly affected also. The P1-2 Shared Education Visit to St Joseph's PS on Friday 20 March has been cancelled, as has the Fashion Show organised by Parents of Drumhillery on 2 April. Anyone who has already purchased tickets for the event will have their money refunded this week. P5-7 swimming will not take place on Thursday since all ABC Council Leisure Centres have closed.

We appreciate this is a very anxious time for parents with many unanswered questions. We wish to support parents as best we can under the circumstances. If you wish to discuss any of the matters mentioned above, please contact me at school. Alternatively feel free to email kcampbell566@c2kni.net as emails will still be monitored in the event of school closures.

Yours sincerely,
K D Campbell,

Principal.