

26 February 2020



Education Services  
West Berkshire District Council  
Council Offices  
West Street House  
West Street  
Newbury  
RG14 1BZ

Dear Parent

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

I am writing to you to set out how West Berkshire Council is responding to the evolving situation around the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

West Berkshire Council is working closely with Public Health England colleagues and schools. The Council has a team of people monitoring the latest information and regular updates are being provided. There is a plan in place – Berkshire Pandemic Influenza Response Plan and this will be activated as necessary.

Schools are advised to follow the advice given by Public Health England (PHE). PHE are leading on the Coronavirus response in the UK. Advice is being provided to schools regularly and a dedicated webpage has been set up containing all relevant information in one place. The latest advice is available to view through the Gov.uk website at:

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): latest information and advice - GOV.UK](#)

Our desire to continue with business as usual will obviously need to run alongside the need to protect staff, pupils and visitors. We are best placed to do so by following the advice of our Public Health colleagues and any decisions taken will be in consultation with these colleagues.

If you have any questions about the response then please direct them to the school in the first instance. If you have any medical concerns or need advice about your own personal circumstances then please contact NHS 111.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Pearson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ian Pearson  
Head of Education Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Pearce', with a horizontal line underneath.

Matthew Pearce  
Head of Public Health and Wellbeing