



Westleigh Methodist Primary School



18th March 2020

Update on the closure of Westleigh Methodist Primary School

This morning senior leaders at Westleigh Methodist Primary School were advised by Public Health England (PHE) to close the school for 14 days following a case that is being treated as a confirmed case of Covid-19.

Over the course of the day, we have received further advice and guidance from PHE.

They acknowledge that their initial guidance for our school's situation was not in line with guidance offered elsewhere, and as a result they have reassessed our situation and amended the information they have provided. They have apologised for this confusion, and, given the immense strain that they are currently under, we are more than happy to work with them to ensure that the information our families are working with is factually correct. We are sorry for any impact this misinformation has had upon our families.

It is true that we have a member of our community who is being treated as a confirmed case of Covid-19. Those who are immediately associated with that individual have now been told to self-isolate for 14 days.

However PHE have confirmed that this guidance DOES NOT apply to every child and their immediate families. You are only asked to self-isolate if you, or a family member, have one or more symptoms of Coronavirus and then you must follow the guidance set by Public Health England. These symptoms are a recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or a high temperature.

The school will now undertake a deep clean and will remain closed for the rest of the week. We will continue to follow all guidance set by Public Health England, and will contact you further with an update, particularly with regard to the announcement of school closures across England.

It is likely that the school will be running in some form over the coming weeks for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. We are digesting what this means in particular for our school family, and await further guidance, but we will keep you posted.

Finally, these are exceptional difficult times for us all. As a community we have pulled through tough times before, and we have no doubt that we will do it again. We want to continue to do the right thing by our children, our staff and our families – so please do contact us if we can be of any help.

Please continue to support your communities and one another, whether that be through taking responsible decisions to self-isolate or reaching out to those in need.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation at this challenging time.
Kind regards

Julie-Ann Hewitt
CEO Acorn Trust

Raising standards in a school that cares

CEO : Mrs J A Hewitt

Headteacher: Mrs X Moragrega

Westleigh Lane, Leigh, Lancashire. WN7 5NJ

Tel: 01942 702967 Fax: 01942 776567



Email: Enquiries@admin.westleighmethodist.wigan.sch.uk