



Heath Lane Nursery School
Heath Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 1TT
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Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Yendell

Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19 Update

With so much news regarding the coronavirus outbreak we wanted to assure you that we are following the advice from the Department for Education (DfE) in the daily updates we receive. In summary we have been advised:

- **That all decisions are based on scientific advice**
- **We are now in the 'Delay' Phase.**
- **Schools in the UK will remain open for the time being**
- **Anyone with new symptoms such as a high temperature of 37.8C (100F or more), a continuous cough and flu like symptoms should stay at home for 7 days**
- **The peak of the virus is not likely to be until sometime in May**
- **That we all need to continue with thorough hand washing and ensure good hygiene at all times**

Acting on this advice:

- **Heath Lane Nursery will remain open unless we are advised to close by the Government or Herts County Council**
- **You will be required to keep your child/children at home for a full 7 days if they have a high temperature, continuous cough and flu like symptoms**
- **Staff with the same symptoms will be told to stay at home for a full 7 days**

At this moment in time all schools have been told **not to close** and we are therefore following this advice. If this should change, we will notify you immediately. Please regularly check your emails for any further information.



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Further information can be found below:

How to wash your hands properly

Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds with soap and hot water. Watch this short NHS film for guidance:

<https://youtu.be/bQCP7waTRWU>

We will be teaching children how to wash their hands with this NHS handwashing song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg>

Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

Department for Education coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Please note, they are currently experiencing high volumes of calls. Your call will join a queue and we will answer as soon as possible.

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Yours sincerely,

Hayley Yendell

Headteacher