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Monday 16th March 2020

Coronavirus Prevention Measure: Cancellation of events and activities

Dear parents/ carers,

As you are aware the World Global Health Organisation has declared that Covid-19 (Coronavirus) is now a Global Pandemic. Britain has now moved to the 'delay' phase of the Government's **COVID19 Action Plan**. This is clearly a very challenging and unique situation and is causing much anxiety.

There are four phases in the Government's Action Plan: Containment, Delay, Mitigation and Research. On Friday it was announced that the Government has moved to the 'delay' phase of the plan. However, there is a clear message that schools should remain open at this time unless directed to do otherwise by Public Health England. As you are aware, school closures have far reaching impacts on the community affecting the workforce, so we do want to try and ensure that we can keep schools open until we are advised further by government.

Since the government have advanced their strategy from containment to delay, the school is now in the process of reviewing all community events.

The implications for Buckton Vale are that we should look to minimise the opportunity of spreading the coronavirus amongst our community. Therefore, I will be instructing staff to cancel and/or postpone non-essential events and activities that may increase the risk to our children, staff or visitors. Decisions will be made on an individual basis but these will be events where students come into direct contact with adults, students from other schools or adults from other organisations. Unfortunately, it also includes events and activities where large numbers of visitors are in attendance on the school site. Therefore the 'Chill Factore' visit scheduled for Monday 16th March, Volleyball competition on Tuesday 17th March, Swimming on Wednesday's, SEND meetings planned for Thursday 19th March and Friday 3rd April, Juniper Class assembly scheduled for Friday 20th March, Year 5/6 visit to Imperial War Museum on Friday 20th March, parents evening scheduled for Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March and Year 5/6 girls football on Thursday 26th March have all been postponed. Also, all assemblies are postponed for the foreseeable future. Decisions regarding all other events will be made in due course and we will keep you informed of these.

There is no cause for concern at Buckton Vale; this is only a precautionary measure.

Should you or a member of your family be self-isolating or if you or any close family members have returned from abroad in the last month, please contact us via the school office or admin email address.

As the situation is evolving we will send out updates as necessary. If new information comes through to us, we will ensure swift communication to all our stakeholders as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "DBrown".

Headteacher