CLO/jr 6 March 2020

## Dear Parents/Guardians

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you regarding the Coronavirus from our point of view: This week our Science department has been educating our students about Coronavirus. We felt that it was important that students had a true understanding of what it is and how they can minimise the spread of it. We hope this has made a difference to their understanding and has stopped any misconceptions. Please find the attached PowerPoint presentation used.

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. They have asked us to share this with staff, parents and students who can contact the helpline by telephone and email with any concerns:

Phone: **0800 046 8687** 

Email: <u>DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk</u>
The helpline is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

The government has said that they will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and take further action as needed. You can find the <u>latest information and advice on COVID-19</u> and the <u>latest guidance for educational settings</u> on the <u>GOV.UK</u> website.

The main advice continues to be simple; everybody should pay special attention to matters of hygiene especially that of washing hands frequently and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds and the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' for those with coughs and sneezes.

Should the government take the extraordinary precaution to instruct us to close, we have a set of emergency measures that we will put in place; all of which ensures continued learning for your child. We will share this with you if necessary and would try to ensure as much notice as possible.

In the unlikely event that your child presents with symptoms associated with the Coronavirus, please inform the school and follow the Government advice on isolation and diagnosis. As always, your child's health and safety is our top priority.

**Best Wishes** 

Mrs C Oakley Headteacher