Mrs J Robinson
(Headteacher)

LOTHERSDALE
Primary School

17 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

I am writing with an update regarding the Coronavirus situation and the current response and actions our school is taking.

Lothersdale School will continue to follow the Department for Education (DFE) and Public Health England advice.

Firstly it is very important that children do not come to school if they develop symptoms of Coronavirus which include:

- a new, continuous cough
- a temperature of 37.8 degrees or above

Children must then stay at home for **14** days if they, or anyone in their household, have one of the above symptoms. If your child develops these symptoms during the school day we will contact you to collect them.

In addition Lothersdale School will try to minimise the spread of the virus by:

- Continuing to uphold stringent handwashing procedures in school. In addition to washing their hands once they have been to the toilet and also prior to lunch, children will wash their hands at the start of the day and before they go home. Handwashing will be supervised by an adult to ensure children wash their hands correctly.
- Cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, such as door handles and light switches.
- Postponing/cancelling until Easter, any events which involve parents coming into school, with a review of the decision made for the summer term. This includes next week's parent consultations.

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- Parents are asked to spend as little time as possible dropping off and collecting children. From 8:45am two members of staff will be on the playground supervising the children so parents **must** leave at this time knowing that the bell will be rung promptly at 8:55am for teachers to greet the children and take them into school. At the end of the school day parents **must** follow the government's policy about social distancing and not cluster in groups whilst waiting for their child/ren. Once you have your child/ren please leave the playground as soon as possible.
- No educational visits will be planned that put our children in contact with large numbers of children and/or adults. This year's Year 6 Crucial Crew event has been postponed and the Fairtrade Coffee morning that was to be held at the Village hall on Friday 3rd April has also been postponed.

During the coming weeks our school will continue to face a changing situation that is likely to include staff absence. In the worst case situation, i.e. many staff are self-isolating, this will result in partial or full school closure. In this situation, or the event that the DFE advises schools to close, the school will provide work-packs and also use the school website to post activities and PowerPoints to support, as best as possible, the continuation of learning.

Despite the uncertainty, please be assured that our school is working hard to support our children and prepare for future changes to DFE policy. As a staff team we are doing all we can to stay well and healthy and keep school running as normally as possible for the sake of the children and our school community.

We are aware that some children may become overly anxious about the pandemic and our staff are providing support for children through the PSHE curriculum.

I will keep you updated with any new information that I receive and am confident, with your support, that Lothersdale School community will do everything possible to support and take care of each other during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

J. Robinson

MRS J ROBINSON
Headteacher