

Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you're probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We're getting in touch to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and local authority.

What's the current situation:

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given.
- All school functions continue to run as normal, including breakfast club, extra-curricular clubs and The Hive After-school club.
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 7 days**:
 - a **new**, continuous cough and/or
 - a temperature
- If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by registering it on Study Bugs, or by telephoning the School Office.
- If your child is due to take part in sporting event or class trip, the school will advise parents should the event be cancelled.
- Year 6 SATs are still scheduled to run on the same dates, but we will keep parents and pupils informed should the government advise of any changes.
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff:

- If a pupil should start feeling unwell on the school premises, an initial assessment will be made, and the parent of the child be telephoned immediately, for them to be collected. The child will be kept safe in an isolated environment.
- A strict cleaning schedule has been taking place each day, and will continue to adhere the highest regulations and guidance.
- All pupils and staff are following the hand-washing enforcement, with the school also providing hand sanitisers.
- The children are receiving lessons about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety by their class teachers.

What we need you to do:

- If you have recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- If your child has a medical condition, that you have not **already** told us about, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.
- Come and collect your child **straight away**, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough).
- In the event of the school being advised to close, we are planning to use an online platform to provide remote teaching – Please refer to communication from the school regarding 'My Learning'. Parents, please check that your child has access to 'My Learning' from home via the link on the School Website and let us know if there are any issues. (I can confirm the ALL accounts have been checked at school – with ALL pupils being able to log in.)

What happens if the school has to close:

We will only close if we are either officially advised to do so, or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

- Alert parents of the closure, via text and a post on the School Website.
- When the school is to reopen, again we will alert parents via text and a post on the School Website.
- As previously mentioned, if the school has to close, the plan is to set work for pupils during closure on My Learning, which can be accessed on any mobile device, computer, ipad/tablet etc. and the school expects parents to support their child's learning, as well as continue the expectation of listening to your child read every day.

Please keep in mind that we are only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

If you have any questions:

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue.
- [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111.
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools.
- Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead.

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss N. Watson
Head Teacher