



St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Miss S Robinson

17.3.20

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Coronavirus Interim Measures

Thank you for all your support so far with the current situation around Coronavirus. I hope you are all taking action to keep yourselves and your families as safe as possible. I am writing to update you on the situation. Whilst we must remain calm, and keep a 'common sense' approach, updated government guidelines last night, now say:

- Anyone with a fever or persistent cough should stay at home for 7 days if they live alone, or 14 days if they live with others.
- Anyone who lives with someone displaying coronavirus symptoms should also stay at home for 14 days.
- Everyone should stop non-essential contact with others – this is particularly important for people over 70, those with underlying health conditions and pregnant women.
- People should work from home where they can.
- People should avoid pubs, clubs and theatres.
- People should stop all unnecessary travel
- By the weekend, those with the most serious health conditions should largely be shielded from social contact for 12 weeks.

These new measures will inevitably impact on the daily running of the school, including reduced staffing as a number of staff working in the school have underlying health conditions and are required to self-isolate. In order to ensure that we are following the government's advice we have:

- Directed high-risk staff to work from home from 18.3.20.
- Cancelled all trips, including swimming from 18.3.20. Y5 PGL trip has been postponed until 2.11.20. All monies paid will be transferred over and there will be no additional costs.
- Cancelled Parents' Evening (19.3.20). Instead, teachers will produce a short report of up to 250 words for parents who will miss their appointments. This will be done by 26.3.20.
- Limited external visitors to the school. Therefore, all parents will be required to drop their children off outside the building. Any planned meetings will be cancelled and rearranged when the current situation is resolved.
- Directed staff to hold Collective Worship in classrooms to prevent the whole school coming together in one room. Lunchtimes will continue as usual on a rota system.
- Although Breakfast Club will continue, all after-school clubs are cancelled from 18.3.20 due to reduced staffing levels.



St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Miss S Robinson

As a result of reduced staffing levels, we will regrettably have to close the school to Foundation Stage and Year 1 as from 18.3.20. Work for these classes will be set on Microsoft Teams. Please see guidance on the website for accessing this work. If you are unable to access this online, please contact us as soon as possible so that we can put alternative measures in place for you. Further partial closures may have to be put in place as government guidance changes – we will continue to prioritise key assessment year groups (Y2, Y6) moving forward. I appreciate that this causes a huge inconvenience to parents and I apologise wholeheartedly but the health and safety of everyone concerned has to be key priority in these challenging times.

I am aware that some of you have had issues with aspects of the Teams Site. The following troubleshooting points may help:

- Microsoft Teams works better in Chrome
- The site can be accessed via an Xbox or PlayStation 4 if you have no tablet or computer access
- If you do not have Apps on your computer, teams can be accessed via a browser.
- If you are still struggling to access this, please contact your child's class teacher.

As I'm sure you will appreciate, this is a highly complex and fast-moving situation with hourly developments. Please be reassured; **we are open to Y2-6 on Wednesday 18th March 2020**. I will keep you informed about any further developments. The latest guidance from Public Health England can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes
Miss Robinson