



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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17th March 2020

Dear Parents,

COVID-19

Following the most recent government announcement, we continue to follow advice from Public Health England and the DfE in relation to the on-going and rapidly changing Coronavirus crisis. The guidance from the Government now is that if anyone in the household has symptoms of the Coronavirus, they must self-isolate for 14 days. Please let us know if that is the case by phoning the school - children will be marked as an authorised absence.

We will continue to follow government guidelines and the school will be open. I am in daily contact with Chair of Governors and we are reviewing staff and pupil absence and have a clear plan in place to keep the school open. However, there may be times over the next few weeks that due to self-isolation advice we have insufficient staff in school to teach the full curriculum. In these circumstances classes will be combined and children may not follow the prescribed curriculum. If we do need to close the school due to insufficient staff or government directive we will aim to give parents 24 hours' notice. We are currently preparing work to be completed at home, and exploring options for remote learning for our Year 6 pupils. We will be sending packs of learning home, as a precaution in case your family need to self-isolate. School still remains open.

We have taken several steps in school to manage potential risks – this includes cancelling whole school assemblies for the time being, and reducing the amount of time the children spend on the carpet. We continue to stress the importance of effective handwashing, and the children are being supervised to wash their hands at regular points throughout the day.

We have taken the difficult decision to postpone parents' evenings next week in order to minimise risk.

We are cancelling the Year 5 Leeson House Meeting for parents - information will be shared electronically with parents instead.

I am aware that this is a very difficult time for everyone and school closures add to families' difficulties. We will do our best to avoid closure but the situation may change quickly.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Rippon

Headteacher