



Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Schools' Federation
Executive Headteacher: Miss C McFlynn
Head of Infant School: Miss A Cannon Head of Junior School: Mrs A Porter
Tel: 01727 854643 Tel: 01727 866668
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CORONAVIRUS UPDATE MONDAY 16th MARCH 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you on the current situation at school regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.

Currently we have a small number of children who are self-isolating as a precautionary measure and are not attending school.

At this point I must stress that these cases are **UNCONFIRMED** and nobody in the school community has been diagnosed with coronavirus.

Schools have received new guidance from the Department of Education and Public Health England following the announcements made by the Government. The guidance is as follows:

What to do if a case of COVID-19 (pupil, student or staff) is suspected in your childcare or educational setting

*“If anyone has been in contact with a suspected case in a childcare or educational setting, no restrictions or special control measures are required while laboratory test results for COVID-19 are awaited. **There is no need to close the setting or send other learners or staff home.**”*

I have also contacted the Department of Education Coronavirus Helpline who have advised that even if we did have a number of people with coronavirus-like symptoms, **this does not increase the risk of others contracting the virus.** Therefore, I can confirm that the **school will remain open** until either there is a confirmed case of coronavirus or the guidance is changed.

As a precaution, the school has taken the decision to cancel trips with the exception of the Clarence Park trip for Year 1 and the Hazard Alley trip for Year 3. As you will see from the newsletter, we have also postponed various other assemblies and celebrations at this time. The school is currently seeking advice about whether children should continue to attend swimming lessons.

We will be implementing additional cleaning routines such as daily disinfecting of door handles, light switches and other touch points and reminding the children about good hygiene to prevent the spread of the virus.

If you are concerned about your child showing symptoms of coronavirus please look at the NHS 111 website, Public Health England and Gov.UK websites. We have added links on the school website to show you guidance issued today and will continue to update this as necessary.

If your child does have coronavirus-like symptoms we advise you to keep them off school. Please inform the school of their absence and self-isolate them for seven days as per the guidance. If you have more than one child at school, as a precaution we would advise that if one child has symptoms, you keep all the children off school to help stop the spread of the virus.



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Please be reassured that the school will continue to update you as the situation develops.

Thank you for your support in this matter, it is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Porter and Miss Cannon



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