

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School



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RE: DFE Coronavirus Update

13th March 2020

Dear Parents

We have received updated advice from Hounslow's Public Health Director Kelly O'Neil which she has asked that we pass onto you:

Further to our previous correspondence, you are likely to have seen in the media there has been wider spread of the coronavirus, also referred to as COVID-19, in northern Italy and new associated travel cases in Europe. Public Health England has therefore revised their guidance to include advice for travellers from these affected areas. Please be aware that this guidance is changing, the government website www.gov.uk/coronavirus is updated daily with the latest information and advice.

As reported cases of the virus increase, we want to make sure that you have the advice you need to stay as safe as possible. We need to be sensible and avoid risks, whilst ensuring we do not compromise the education of our students. If you or a family member has recently travelled to a high risk country please follow Public Health England's guidance.

If you or a family member should develop symptoms of shortness of breath, high temperature and fever and cough, you should contact your GP by telephone or NHS111 and get advice.

Please do not send your child to school for 7 days if they show any of these symptoms:

- 1. A new dry cough***
- 2. High temperature***

*The guidance from the DfE and the Department of Health is updated daily.
The full guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>*

*The countries/areas that have implications for return visitors or travellers in respect of the virus can be seen here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>*

With Christ in our hearts we grow in love to help others.

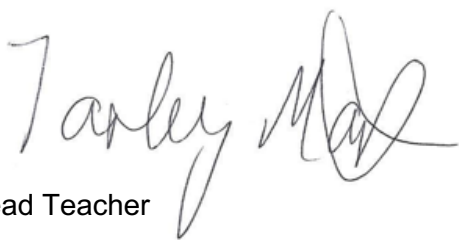
We know from the Prime Minister's update yesterday that schools are to stay open. We will continue to monitor the official updates regularly and will keep you informed.

At St Mary's we have been working on these additional measures in school and we thank you for supporting us:

- pupils, students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:
 - before leaving home
 - on arrival at school
 - after using public transport
 - after using the toilet
 - after breaks and sporting activities
 - before food preparation
 - before eating any food, including snacks
 - before leaving school
- use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol **if soap and water are not available**. Please continue, if you are able, to send your child into school with their own supply of hand sanitiser. Like you we are having difficulty with deliveries of this.
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

If the school has to close we will inform you via the Parent Hub app. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tanya M...', written in a cursive style.

Head Teacher

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