



St Clement & St James CE Primary School

16th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Coronavirus Update

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 are asking from you as parents and carers, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and the 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 and after school provision.

Parent pupil progress meetings will continue this week. Pupils should attend school 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, please report this as you would normally by contacting the school office on 020 7603 9225 or emailing info@scsj.rbkc.sch.uk

In order to maintain safety and reduce any unnecessary contact through large gatherings we will be cancelling the following events:

- All school trips that use public transport:
 - Wednesday 18th Yr4 Tate Modern**
 - Friday 20th March Yr5 Royal Albert Hall**
 - Friday 27th March Yr5&6 Natural History Museum**
- End of term celebrations: **Thursday 2nd April** – Spring Celebration - Cancelled
- Visits to church: **Tuesday 31 March Easter Service** – Cancelled
- Please note that swimming will continue until further notice

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

- Contacting parents if your child becomes unwell
- Making sure the school is cleaned and hard surfaces are regularly wiped down
- Providing soap and tissues in all classrooms and ensuring children regularly wash their hands
- Conducting lessons for pupils about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety

What we need you to do

If you've recently changed your contact details, 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 www.bbc.co.uk/newsround#more-stories-2](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround#more-stories-2) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds youngminds.org.uk](http://youngminds.org.uk) 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).

Check that your child has access to a computer and the internet from home, and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure we're well prepared for online learning if the school does need to close at some point).

What happens if the school has to close?

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school. In either case, we'll text you and post on the news page of our website.

We will aim to post learning activities for children on the class pages of our website and will give you more information about this should the need arise.

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

If you have any questions or worries

Please consult:

- The school office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- or talk to senior staff on the gate when you pick up and collect your children
- Talk to Fr Sam at St Thomas' church (07841 973 045) or your religious leader
- [NHS https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/), 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 https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19) 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
- Consult the Government's [travel advice www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus), 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.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Bouette
Executive head teacher