



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farmfield Drive, Beechwood, Prenton, Wirral, CH437TE

Tel: 0151 652 7828

Fax: 0151 653 9052

E-mail: schooloffice@stpauls.wirral.sch.uk

Website: www.stpauls.wirral.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Fenna B.Ed.

16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are probably aware, the government's guidance on Covid-19 has moved from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. I want to let you know what we're doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm. I would like to reassure you that at St Paul's 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 is the current situation?

- **The school remains open** – this is the latest, official guidance we have been given from Public Health
- The announcement by the Prime Minister that there are no plans to close schools at the moment has not stopped us from preparing for possible closure in the future. The staff are busy putting together work/activities (paper based and online) for children to complete at home in order to reduce lost learning time should closure be forced upon us
- All school functions continue to run as normal including breakfast club and after-school clubs
- All possible hygiene measures are being taken in school
- Pupils should attend 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, report this by telephone to the school office.
- We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we need you to do

- **It is vitally important that we have up to date contact details for all parents in the school office in case we need to contact you in emergency.**
- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible.**
- Reassure your child. It's a worrying time and we need to make sure children feel supported. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround> has regular updates for younger children and <https://youngminds.org.uk/> has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety
- Come and collect your child straight away, if requested (we will contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)

What happens if the school has to close?

We will only close if we are either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

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 please consult the:

- school office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue
- NHS, 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 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
- Government's travel advice, if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you are taking abroad should go ahead

It's a difficult time for everyone and we know you are worried about the impact this might have on our school community. It is important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Fenna
Headteacher