



# St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School

Belgrave Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW4 7AG

Headteacher : Mrs N Duggan

Deputy Headteacher : Mrs S Bell

Chair of Governors : Mrs Sandra D'Souza- Zerkhfaoui



*Learning our faith, Living our faith, Loving our faith*

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## **Latest advice and plan regarding Coronavirus / COVID 19**

Last night the Prime Minister announced new measures to combat the on-going threat of Coronavirus / COVID 19. As you are probably aware the latest advice is that everyone should avoid unnecessary contact with others and work from home if possible. All members of the public have been advised to avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and social venues if they are still open.

From today we are asking all parents to keep their child at home for 14 days if your child or ANYONE in your immediate family develops either a new dry cough or a high temperature.

The Government are advising those who are at increased risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

Please do not hesitate to keep your child off school if your child is at an increased risk. Please can you liaise with Mrs Heaney, our Welfare Assistant if we are not in receipt of medical evidence to support this.

The list on the link above will also impact our staff. We have already sent home members of staff with underlying illnesses or those over the age of 70 as per the advice and will take the appropriate action to try to maintain our school being open for as long as possible.

We understand that you're worried and we will endeavour to keep you updated as to our actions to keep all risk to a minimum. Please can we ask that you check emails and the school website regularly to ensure that you are in receipt of information as and when we send it.

We remain in close contact daily with a number of agencies including the Local Authority, Public Health England, The Department for Education and Westminster Diocese in regard to the spread of this virus and the further impact this may have on our students and staff.



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The government's action plan mentions that school closure is a distinct future possibility especially here in London to slow the spread of the disease as it becomes more established in the UK. However, at present we are continuing to follow official guidance and we have clear strategic plans in place should we need to respond differently.

In the event of a school closure, we are sending home non-online resources today which can be used to help maintain their education at home. These will include: reading books, worksheets/workbooks or topic-based learning grids. There will be additional online activities for those children who have secure and safe access to the internet; teachers have advised children where to find these.

As per our most recent email, we have cancelled all after school clubs including the morning fitness clubs. Breakfast Club will continue to run, however, we will keep you updated should this decision change.

If you have any concerns regarding the health of anyone in your family, please call NHS111 who will advise you further. You should continue to send your daughter/son to school, and if you have any concerns about this, you can call 0800 046 8687 which is a dedicated line to the Department of Education (also email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)).

In the mean time we will continue to do everything possible to keep the effects of this virus to a minimum here at St Michael and St Martin and endeavour to maintain our school being open to play our part to support the National plan.

Please also keep in mind the pressure which the school staff are currently working under.

We will continue to keep you updated throughout this worrying time.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs N Duggan**  
**Headteacher**