



St Michael's Catholic College

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Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Kathleen Faherty

10th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Coronavirus- Update

You will be aware from my recent letters and Edulink updates that we are paying very close attention to the emerging situation with the outbreak of Covid 19 (Coronavirus) in the United Kingdom and we are being updated daily from within Public Health England and through centralised Government advice. Our guiding principle is that we follow the advice set-out by Public Health England and we will ensure our community is updated regularly and as soon as there is more information to share.

At present we will continue our approach to maintain 'business as usual', whilst ensuring that all members of the College community maintain a heightened awareness and adherence to the highest standards of hygiene (particularly hand washing) and by asking all parents, staff and Governors to communicate with the College as a matter of urgency regarding any incidents of self-isolation or contamination that have affected them. In addition, parents/carers of students with an underlying health condition and/or a compromised immune system were sent a letter from me earlier today asking them to seek advice as soon as possible from their GP/hospital about any further actions their child may need to take in addition to the current Public Health England guidance.

We are conscious that there are two scenarios that might unfold in upcoming weeks and it is judicious, in so far as is possible, to prepare for them;

1. **If** there is a confirmed outbreak of coronavirus within the College community

Should this occur, we will follow the advice of Public Health England.

2. **If** the College is mandated to close for an unspecified or specified period of time

We are planning for both of these eventualities so that teaching and learning will be maintained and supported virtually.

I would like to make it clear that at this stage **I have no reason or new information** to suggest that we have anyone within the college community demonstrating any symptoms, however it is imperative that we are prepared for all eventualities and are able to meet and support the needs of all in our College community. I will continue to monitor the advice from Public Health England and will update parents/carers accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Ms F Corcoran
Principal



Covid 19 (Coronavirus) Information for Parents/Carers

The general guidance from the NHS about how to stop viruses like the coronavirus spreading is to follow this advice.

DO:

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell











DON'T:

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.

In addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, people should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

Symptom checker from the World Health Organisation

Symptoms	Coronavirus <small>Symptoms range from mild to severe</small>	Cold <small>Gradual onset of symptoms</small>	Flu <small>Abrupt onset of symptoms</small>
 Fever	Common	Rare	Common
 Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
 Cough	Common* (usually dry)	Mild	Common* (usually dry)
 Sneezing	No	Common	No
 Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common
 Runny or stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes
 Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
 Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes for children
 Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common
 Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention