



**MR P. O'ROURKE** BA (Hons), NPQH, MA  
Headteacher

**ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**GORDON ROAD, ENFIELD**  
**EN2 0QA**

E-mail: [office@st-georges.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-georges.enfield.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.st-georges.enfield.sch.uk](http://www.st-georges.enfield.sch.uk)

Tel: 020 8363 3729  
Fax: 020 8367 2275

Monday 16 March 2020

Dear parents,

I am writing with a Coronavirus update further to the letter distributed on Friday. As this is a changing and unprecedented scenario, the situation changes daily and further updates will be issued regularly.

### School Closure

A number of parents have asked me about the possibility of a school closure. We have not been given any directive from the Department for Education that suggests that schools will need to close, however, the situation changes daily and I can assure parents that you will be informed immediately if such a directive is given or the situation in St George's makes staying open unfeasible. The DfE have today published the following statement:

*Current advice remains in place: no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England. The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:*

*Phone: 0800 046 8687*

*Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday), 10am to 4pm (Saturday to Sunday)*

*The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and on the workforce would be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to education or children's social care settings will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggests children are a lower risk group.*



## **Absence**

We have high absence for children today, mostly with high temperatures or dry coughs. If you are concerned that your child is unwell, call NHS111 and follow their advice. The self-isolation period is 7 days. Inform the school office about absence the usual way.

## **School work at home**

If your child is absent from school, you do not need to request that work is sent home for them. The teachers are meeting this evening to ensure that our learning platform, DB Primary, is populated with work for children should they be off school for a long period of time, or indeed if the school should need to close. Please ensure that your child's DB Primary log in is working and that your child can log on. Times Tables Rockstars (Years 2-6), Numbergym, and LGFL – Espresso and Busythings are also platforms that will be used. If you are unsure of your child's log in details, please talk to the class teacher.

## **Minimising the Risk**

We are taking a number of measures at school to minimise the risk of any virus spreading. Additional cleaning is taking place daily, and new handwashing regimes have been introduced for staff and children. Daily routines will be altered to avoid situations where groups of children are close together and we are avoiding using equipment that is passed from pupil to pupil, such as iPads or games equipment.

Our priority is to maintain a safe environment for the staff and pupils and we will do everything possible to achieve that. We really appreciate the messages of support that we have received and the offers of additional soap and tissues are very welcome! We should be really proud of being part of a special St George's community.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr P O'Rourke  
*Headteacher*