



Acting Headteacher: Mrs J Wainwright
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16th March 2020

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE AND SCHOOL PLAN

Dear Parents / Carers

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 expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We'd like to reassure you that at St Bartholomew's, we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and 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 and after school clubs.
- 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 as you would normally by call or emailing school.
- We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.

What we're doing to protect and support pupils?

We are working hard in school to ensure the children wash their hands regularly. In addition we are teaching them about hygiene.

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 has regular updates for younger children and Young Minds has practical steps, older children can take to help with anxiety.



St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School

Strawberry Lane, Armley, LS12 1SF



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- 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).

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:

- Send out a letter
- Alert you with a text message
- Publish details on the website

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 the 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'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.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT WE'RE ONLY SENDING OUT THIS INFORMATION TO HELP THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY PREPARE. THERE ARE NO CURRENT PLANS TO CLOSE.

If we do close, we will send a text alert and publish on the website when we will re-open

Thank you for your continued support.

J Wainwright

Mrs Wainwright
Acting Head Teacher

