



In all things faithful

**St Damian's RC Science College**

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**Headteacher**

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17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear parents/carers

As you are aware there is a lot of news coverage regarding coronavirus (COVID-19). This letter is an update on the situation, but as you know, this is a rapidly changing situation.

Firstly, let me be absolutely clear: our number one priority is the wellbeing of our pupils and staff. As a school community, we are continuing to monitor the situation, following advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education.

This guidance, at the time of writing, states that pupils must attend school as normal, unless they show symptoms of coronavirus. These symptoms are a high temperature or a new continuous dry cough. If pupils have these symptoms, then they and all in the household must self-isolate for 14 days.

The guidance we follow is on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

As far as we are aware, we do not currently have any cases of Covid19 within school and as such, we remain open as per the guidance and the risk to all students and staff is classed as low.

However, the basic hygiene of everyone attending school is something we all need to remain mindful of. Our toilets are checked several times a day to ensure that there is adequate soap and sanitiser available for students to use and we would continue to encourage them to use it appropriately when needed. The daily cleaning routine in the school ensures that high contact areas, such as door handles, are disinfected regularly. If pupils cough or sneeze, they must do so into a tissue and then follow the NHS guidelines: Catch it, bin it, kill it.

We will inform all parents immediately, if, and when the situation changes. In the event of an enforced school closure, we will notify you at that time, about how we will continue to ensure students are working on appropriate material and are being supported by staff.

Regards

Mr Logue

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