



Dear Parents/Carers,

St. Chad's R.C. Primary School.
Executive Headteacher: Jacqui Potts

Balmfield Street
Cheetham
Manchester
M8 OSP

TEL: 0161 205 6965

Fax: 0161 205 6529

Twitter: @StChadsRC

Website: www.st-chads.manchester.sch.uk

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 we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government.

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
- Pupils should attend unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they **should remain at home for 14 days**:
 - A new, continuous cough and/or
 - A high temperature
- Pupils should also **remain at home for 14 days** if anyone they live with has the above symptoms
- If your child is unwell or is self-isolating, report this as you would normally by calling the office
- If you are concerned about anyone in your household who has an underlying health problem then you can make the decision to self-isolate your child/children. I am stopping our attendance monitoring procedures for the time being so there will be no come back should you decide to do this.
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

- If a child displays either of the above symptoms at school we will call and ask you to take them home. We will not expect you to bring the child back for 14 days. You will also be able to take home brothers and sisters who must also stay at home for 14 days
- We are taking extra precautions in school to clean surfaces and door handles
- Our children and staff are now expert hand washers and have been taught how to wash properly.
- We are doing our very best to keep things very calm for the children and to reassure them.

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via
- 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 [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety
- 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 will:

- Alert you by text and with links to our website.
- Let you know by text and website when we are due to reopen
- Send the children home with some activities to do, we will also put some links to appropriate websites. We will not expect the work done at home to come back to school.

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

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 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 look after yourselves and keep safe.

Thank you for your continued support,

God bless,

Jacqui Potts