



St. Monica's Catholic Primary School
Currier Drive, Neath Hill,
Milton Keynes MK14 6HB
Tel: 01908 606966 Fax: 01908 608486
Email: stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk

16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Families

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updated Government Guidance

Late last week, the Government announced that we are moving from the Contain phase of the coronavirus action plan and into the Delay phase.

The Delay Phase

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days.

This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying symptoms to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above), and/or
A new, continuous cough.

You do not need to call NHS 111 to stay at home. If your symptoms worsen during your stay at home period or are no better after 7 days, contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency, dial 999.

Will schools close?

Current advice remains in place: no education should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

Decisions on future advice to schools will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence.

IMPORTANT REQUEST

Please can you make sure that the school has an **up to date email address** for you so we can contact you should the need arise?

In the event that the school is advised by Public Health England to close at any future point, we will need an email address with which to contact you, including with any school work for children and any confirmation of a re-opening date.

We have put together a list of emails from Parentmail and our school records.

We do not have emails for every family and will be writing this week to those families for whom we do not have an email address in order to get one. Please fill out the form and return it or email the school office with your up to date email address.

In the event of school closure, we will also use the Milton Keynes Council school closure website as we do in the event of snow.

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/closures

This website will indicate which MK schools are closed.

Please use the following link and you will also be able to sign up for e-mail and text alerts about school closures (for our school and other schools in Milton Keynes if relevant) on this site.

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/Closures/Subscribe

We will also put messages on the front page of our website at www.st-monicas.co.uk if the school is to be closed.

I hope, for now, this information is helpful. As you can see, there is no need at this stage to keep children away from school unless they are displaying the specific symptoms detailed.

Should you wish to contact the Department for Education directly, a helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

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

Further assistance?

I appreciate that this is a lot of information and that it refers to accessing the internet through a number of links for more information. If you need any help from me looking together at the information, accessing the internet or for any other related reason, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Robert O'Malley

Headteacher