To All Parents / Carers

St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School

Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

**COVID19 – School Update and Action Plan**

We realise that these are worrying times for our whole community and I am writing to you today to reassure you of the plans that are already in place to keep the whole community safe and our proposals for the future days and weeks.

The Leadership Team continue to follow the advice of the Department for Education and Public Health England and advise our families to do the same. The school also has a Coronavirus Tab on its website with links to the government information. Families who believe they need to self-isolate must advise the school of the reason they believe it is necessary to do so and whether they are following the advice to isolate for 7 or 14 days. This information will then be recorded on your child’s file and we would not expect to see them return to school within this period.

I can assure you that the school has significant stocks of cleaning and sanitising products to ensure that hand hygiene continues to be observed and that the school is thoroughly cleaned, as always.

Additionally, the kitchen has adequate provisions to ensure provision of school meals. We are working closely with our suppliers to ensure our menu can be honoured but on occasion there may be menu variations. We will of course continue to cater for all allergies and dietary considerations.

The school currently plans to remain open but this may change and indeed may involve partial closure or amalgamation of classes if staff develop symptoms and need to isolate. Families will be informed if this is the case.

We intend to ensure that all core services remain open as long as possible but it may be necessary to withdraw breakfast, after school activities / clubs and individual music lessons if the staff team becomes depleted and we need to re-deploy staff resources. Again, families will be informed if this is the case.

We have made the decision today that the following ‘non-essential’ activities will be rescheduled to future dates:

* Parent consultations for all year groups due to take place next week
* Year 2 trip to Kenton Recreation Ground
* Community Choir
* Parent Reading sessions in Reception Class
* Afternoon Tea scheduled for Saturday 21st March (refunds will be made if you are unable to commit to the rescheduled date when advised).

Collective Worship in school will be replaced by Class Worship and we will inform families regarding the Easter Service in due course. We trust that all families will appreciate our desire to ensure the whole community is kept safe and that the decision to reschedule these events has not been taken lightly.

It is our intention to ensure our website is updated with adequate work for the children to complete in the event of a full or partial closure or self-isolation. If your child is unwell then there would be no need for them to undertake additional work until they are fully recovered. Full guidance for suggested activities will be posted once finalised but we suggest families encourage the children to use Mathletics, letter-join and to read and practise phonics daily. BBC Bitesize is also a well-recognised excellent resource for all ages of children.

<https://login.mathletics.com/>

<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/log-in.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

We will continue to follow the advice of central Government and the Health Authorities. Whilst we appreciate that it is very unsettling, it is important to ensure the children’s routines remain in place wherever it is safe to do so and that we continue to reassure them and maintain good hand hygiene both at school and home. May I also take this opportunity to remind parents / carers that it is imperative that the school has up to date contact information so that you can be contacted at all times.

Should there be any change to these proposals the school will inform all families as soon as possible.

Almighty God, who sees that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended against all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen 🕆

With every blessing,



Revd. Daniel Norris
Executive Headteacher