

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Ms Nicola Kane LLB.PgDip, PgCert.

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Email: admin@st-catherine.herts.sch.uk

www.stcatherinescatholicprimaryschool.co.uk

Horseshoe Lane
Garston
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WD25 7HP

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Daily Coronavirus Update Three

School Closure

I am sure that many of you are as confused as we are by the latest Government briefing. What is clear is that from Friday, schools will be closed to the vast majority of pupils. What is unclear is who will fall into the category of 'key worker' and therefore continue to be able to send children into school. Unfortunately, we have been given no additional guidance. I know that school closure will be very difficult for many of you. The current lack of information has also led to great uncertainty among staff.

Although we hope the Government will issue further information tomorrow, we would like to hold our own SLT 'Cobra meeting' as soon as possible, so that we can make provisional plans.

To give us initial indications of numbers, I would ask that if:

- you feel you may fall into the category of key worker (e.g. NHS, police, delivery drivers etc.) *or*
- your child has an EHCP

and you would continue to send your child into school next week (rather than leave them with a spouse/partner/other family member), please email head@st-catherine.herts.sch.uk. This will really help us to formulate a plan.

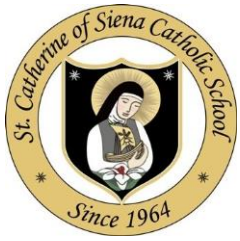
Isolation

Thank you again to everyone who has followed the Government guidance and emailed medical@st-catherine.herts.sch.uk to let us know about your child's absence. Please do continue to use this email to notify us of isolation, or removal from school. If you have already notified us, there is no need to re-notify.

As previously stated, guidance is that if any member of the household has flu-like symptoms, a new persistent cough, or temperature of 37.8 degrees or above, the whole household must remain at home for 14 days.

Exams have been far from our thoughts as a leadership at this time. I do however welcome





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the news that the SATs will not go ahead – there are far more important things to focus on. However, I appreciate that the cancellation of GCSEs and A-levels will be very upsetting and unsettling for those young people who have been preparing for them and now face an uncertain future. My thoughts are with them and any of your families who are affected.

In relation to SATs, I am sure that the majority of children will be delighted! Please do, however, reassure them that their hard work has not been in vain – the aim of SATs is to test that children are 'Secondary ready'. Regardless of Government testing, we want our children to leave Year 6 ready for the next phases in their education. This is even more important where children may be out of education for a significant period of time.

Thank you for your continued support. Again, please look after yourselves and others.

God Bless,

Nicola Kane

Headteacher



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