



St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, yesterday, the Government announced that we are moving from the Contain phase of the coronavirus action plan and into the Delay phase, in response to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

We are getting in touch to let you know what we are 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 would like to reassure you that at St Augustine of Canterbury we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and local authority.

What is the current situation?

The **school remains open** - this is the current official guidance we have been given.

All school functions, including Parent's evening and Friday assemblies, continue to run as normal until we are advised otherwise.

The Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for **7 days**, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms.

The symptoms are:

- **A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)**
- **A new, continuous cough**

The advice is you do not need to call NHS 111 to stay at home. If symptoms worsen during their 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.

Please note that this includes Parents/Carers and visitors to our school in regard to Friday morning assemblies, Parents Evening etc.

If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally, by ringing the school office before 9am.

We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation.



What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff

As is our current practice, if your child feels ill on the school premises we will telephone Parents/Carers. Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to.

We continue to ensure that all children and staff are vigilant with handwashing and hygiene. We are also following the 'e-Bug' project educational resources, led by Public Health England which has a dedicated webpage for learning resources on hand washing and respiratory hygiene.

What we need you to do

If you have recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via the school office (01634 371892 or email office@staugustine.medway.sch.uk). You will also need to update your Parentmail account.

It can be a worrying time and we should make sure children feel supported. If you choose to talk to your child about the coronavirus, [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.

Check that your child has access to the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) from home, and let us know if there are any issues (so we can make sure we are well prepared for remote learning if the school does need to close at some point).

What happens if the school has to close?

We will only close if we are either officially advised to do so or we do not have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we will:

- Inform Parents/Carers via Parentmail and the School Website <https://www.staccp.org.uk/>
- Work will be set for children in the event of school closure on the VLE. Each child will be given an exercise book to take home to record their learning. The teachers will upload learning linked to their planning including as many helpful resources as possible including some use of Powerpoint etc. You can support your child with their learning by accessing the VLE and helping your child to complete the work set, access Mathematics, Timetables RockStars and Phonics Play etc.

Please keep in mind that we are 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.

As a school community we will continue to work together to protect our children's education. The Health and Safety and Safeguarding of our children is paramount and I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Prestidge
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

