



Daventry Rd, Southam, Warwickshire. CV47 1PS
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www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk

15th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

RE: Coronavirus infection (COVID-19)

I wanted to write to share important information regarding the COVID-19 infection and the possible impact on our school community.

Safety and wellbeing

The health and safety of our children and staff remains our top priority. The staff and governors are taking the situation very seriously, although it is important that we remain calm and do not cause undue alarm or concern for our children. As of today, we have no confirmed cases of the virus at our school. We are continuing to be vigilant and promote hygiene at school and have asked our cleaners to pay increased attention when cleaning high contact areas.

Potential school closure

Schools, as yet, are **NOT CLOSING**. However, you will no doubt be aware that schools are on alert to close. We are continuing to monitor the situation and advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education. If we take a decision to close or are advised or required to close, we will inform parents and carers immediately. In the meantime, we are making provisional plans which include providing support and guidance for maintaining children's learning at home in the event of a school closure.

What to do if you or your child feels unwell

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are the recent onset of a new continuous dry cough and/or high temperature. If you are concerned that a member of your family has these symptoms, please follow online guidance and where appropriate phone NHS 111 or contact NHS on line <https://111.nhs.uk/>

If you or your child become unwell they should NOT come to school. Please keep us fully informed, by phone. Please also let us know if you or your child has come into contact with someone who has or is believed to have been infected. **In these circumstances we are asking parents to keep those children at home.**

I would encourage parents and carers to be cautious and to make informed decisions using available guidance. The following link provides help and guidance on when to stay at home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If a child comes to school and is unwell, we will follow our usual process to contact parents or carers to come and collect the child.

We will keep in touch and will update you as soon as we get further information. I would encourage you to visit our website at www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk for all the latest information.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Jane Price
Headteacher