



St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699

Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

Monday 16 March 2020

Dear Families,

DfE Updated guidance for education settings on coronavirus (COVID-19) 16 March 2020

We are continuing to monitor the outbreak of the COVID-19 Coronavirus and its potential impact on our students and the wider community.

We have had no reports of any student, parent or member of staff being diagnosed with the virus. As a school, we continue to take all active steps to ensure the wellbeing of our community, including an increased level of cleaning, particularly in the high touch areas.

Guidance from the DfE is sent to schools everyday. We have received the following information which I am sharing with you in this letter see below. Today, the Department for Education and Public Health England have issued updated guidance for education settings on COVID-19. This guidance will assist staff in addressing COVID-19 in educational settings. This includes childcare, schools, further and higher educational institutions.

Current advice remains in place; no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and on the work force would be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to education or children's social care settings will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggest that children are a lower risk group.

Since my last letter there has been new guidance for self isolation and this includes not calling NHS 111. Please read the new guidance below and via the link.

Self-isolation

New guidance, stay at home self isolation, click [here](#) states that anyone with a new continuous cough and/or a temperature (of above 37.8C) should self-isolate for seven days. You do not need to call 111 to go into self-isolation. If symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after seven days, you are advised to contact NHS111 online www.111.nhs.uk If your child requires self-isolation you must let us know immediately; we will do everything we can to support.

What you need to know:

- staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise they should attend education or work as normal
- if staff, young people or children become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home
- clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using your standard cleaning products
- supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual with soap and water or hand sanitiser and catch coughs and sneezes in tissues

Headteacher Mrs Beverley Stanislaus B.Ed. NPQH

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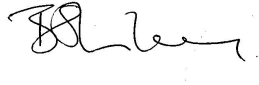
WITH LOVE AND LEARNING



The updated guidance can be found in the link below

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19#contents>

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Stanislaus', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Beverley Stanislaus
Headteacher