

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School



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RE: DFE Coronavirus helpline

3rd March 2020

Dear Parents

We are continuing to keep you updated on the government's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The Department for Education has launched a Coronavirus helpline and dedicated email which you can use to get the answers to any questions related to COVID-19. These contacts are for parents, young people and school staff:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Government advice continues to be that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19. Please help us in sharing simple and effective hand hygiene messages by:

- 1. Showing your child how to effectively wash and dry their hands. We should all wash our hands at least 5 times a day taking at least 20 seconds (the length of time it takes to sing 'Happy Birthday'). See here for NHS advice on hand washing: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>**
- 2. In addition we would like children to have access to their own small (50ml) container of alcohol hand gel. Please show your child how to use the gel, specifically the amount needed each time. Children can keep**

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their own container of gel on them and you can monitor their use by checking the containers daily.

3. You can find more information and updates by visiting these sites:

Updates on COVID-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings:

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

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tanley M. A.', written in a cursive style.

Head Teacher

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