



## St Joseph's Catholic Academy

Member of the Newman Catholic Collegiate

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Acting Executive Principal- Mrs D Farmer

Acting Head of School – Mrs R Wilson

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you with regards to the COVID-19 outbreak. St. Joseph's is continuing to follow all the latest guidance from government and the health agency. It is very important that we continue with the handwashing procedures that we have in place and hope you will encourage your child to do so at home. Some advice on handwashing can be found below:

How to wash your hands properly;

Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds with soap and hot water.

Watch this short NHS film for guidance:

- <https://youtu.be/bQCP7waTRWU>

Teach young children how to wash their hands with the NHS handwashing song:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeWLnEg>

New guidance has been given from today. If you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection.

If your child shows these symptoms they should self-isolate for 7-days. Full guidance on self-isolating can be found here <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>

Anyone with symptoms of the new cough and high temperature, who must therefore self-isolate, will not be penalised in anyway due to poor attendance. This will not be taken into account while calculating eligibility for the 100% end of term prize.

The school has no plans to close, however, we will follow any advice that we are given to ensure we work as a community to combat the spread of this infection.

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

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

It appears that developments are changing by the day and I wish to reassure you, that should there be any change affecting the school we will inform you all as soon as possible. Thank you for your support during this difficult time

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Farmer  
Acting Executive Principal



