



17th March 2020

Update – Coronavirus



**ST. MARY
MAGDALENE**
C of E Primary School

48 Brayards Road,
Peckham
London . SE15 3RA

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are working hard to make sure life carries on as normal as possible for our children and we would like to reassure you that at SMMS we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government. We have a comprehensive action plan in place which addresses implications relating to the Coronavirus for the school and follows the government’s latest advice which was issued yesterday. The current position is to continue with “business as usual” with heightened precautionary hygiene measures in relation to children, staff and visitors.

As a precautionary measure, from today, trips (including swimming and library visits) will be cancelled until at least Easter. Our Easter service for parents and carers is postponed.

Additionally, we have put the following measures in place:

- Pupils who report feeling ill on the school premises are now taken to an isolation room and appropriate actions are taken in accordance with our established procedures.
- The school is cleaned every day between 4:00pm to 6:30pm. Toilets are checked regularly throughout the day. Soap and warm water are available in the toilets and in every classroom. We have sufficient cleaning supplies on site, including toilet rolls and soap for hand washing. Additional cleaning is carried a further two times a day wiping down door handles and hand rails.
- We enforce regular hand-washing of pupils and staff.
- We have implemented lessons and assemblies for pupils about hygiene. Our pupils also received a lesson explaining coronavirus and the current situation.

Thank you for your continued support. We would also like to thank our families who have followed advice to self- isolate. Where a pupil is in self-isolation, in accordance with latest information and advice from Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England, the pupil is recorded as unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances in the attendance register. This means that the absence is authorised. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need any further support.

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Moving forwards, it may be that we reach a position where we have a number of staff that become ill and/or have to go into self-isolation or government advice changes and we have to take a decision to close the school. Should we reach this point we will inform you via text, email, twitter, Instagram and our website. In the event of closure, links to educational websites will also be found on the website and/or emailed to you.

Government and NHS advice now states: If you have a "new and persistent cough or high temperature" you will still be asked to self-isolate for 7 days from the onset of COVID-19 symptoms but any individuals in the household will now be asked to self-isolate for 14 days from that moment as well. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home Further information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guidance-for-households-with-possible-covid-19-infection>

If your child is going to be absent from school please follow the usual procedure of phoning the school office and leaving a message (option 1) and in line with current guidance, any child with a new and persistent cough, or a high temperature should self-isolate.

Thank you for your continued support,

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

Anna Harding
Acting Headteacher