



St. Leonard's Avenue
Stafford
ST17 4LT

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16th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Coronavirus update

Following latest government advice, I write with an update about our arrangements in school.

Attendance at school

The government has advised that, whilst schools remain open, attendance for pupils continues to be compulsory. This means, if a parent chooses not to send their child to school due to their own anxiety and concern about Coronavirus, these absences have to be recorded as unauthorised.

We understand that many of you will be feeling anxious at this time, however, this is a directive of the government and not a decision taken by individual schools.

Pupils showing symptoms of Coronavirus, i.e. high temperature over 38C and/or a new and continuous cough, should self-isolate and not attend school for 7 days.

The current guidance is that after 7 days isolation, if your child is well and symptom free, they can return to school. If you are unsure of what to do, please seek medical advice before your child returns to school.

Staying at home latest advice link

<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>

NHS 111 are under extreme pressure at the moment so please consider using their online service:

<https://111.nhs.uk/Question/Navigation>

There is no current official advice for whole families to self-isolate at this time. Therefore, a child should not be kept away from school if someone else in the family has been advised to self-isolate. Again, this is not a decision taken by individual schools, but the advice we are required to follow from the DfE.

If your child is absent because they are symptomatic of Coronavirus, please ensure that when reporting absences, you are very clear when describing their symptoms, i.e. last temperature reading and time taken, date cough began etc. This is to enable school to monitor any potential risk and keep everyone safe.

Events in and out of school that are cancelled/postponed

It has been difficult to make these decisions but the welfare of the most vulnerable members of our community have been at the centre of our decisions. After school clubs will continue as normal unless you are informed otherwise.

Tuesday 17th March	Reception to St. Paul's Church	
	Cross Country	
Friday 20th March	Parent Wellbeing Programme	Postponed until further notice
	Mother's Day Assembly	
Monday 23rd March	PTFA Meeting	
Tuesday 24th March	Cross Country	
Wednesday 25th March	Handball	
Thursday 26th March	Parents Evening	Reports will be sent out as usual. If you have any queries/concerns about the content of these reports, then please email the school office or the class teacher.
	Parent Forum	
Friday 27th March	PTFA Mufti Day	
	KS1 Pond/Compost	
	Parent Wellbeing	
Monday 30th March	Presentation Assembly	
	Y4 Parent Meeting	
	Y1/Y2 Volleyball	
Wednesday 1st April	Cake Sale	
Thursday 2nd April	Cricket	
	PTFA Chocolate Bingo	
Friday 3rd April	Easter Service	

All school trips will be cancelled until further notice.



ST. LEONARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL AND LEO'S NURSERY



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Parent contact in school

Whilst we do not wish to alarm parents, we are advised to keep all visitors and contact in school to an absolute minimum. We are therefore asking for parents help in this.

We need to minimise visits to the school office to essential reasons only. Queries can be answered by telephone or email if needed. If we do not answer your call on the first ring, please leave us a message and someone from the admin team will call you back as soon as possible. Or email the main school inbox office@st-leonards-stafford.staffs.sch.uk

We urge you to please keep on top of the communications we are sending out and refer to them in the first instance if you have any questions that could be easily answered.

Parents must minimise time spent on the playground in the morning. We urge you to please use the 'drop and go' facility in the mornings to minimise congregating together.

For Reception and Nursery - parents will not be allowed into classrooms for either morning drop off or afternoon pick up.

If you need to inform the class teacher about something, please send an email via the school office. Our toilet facilities will now be out of bounds to visitors. We apologise to anyone who may find this an inconvenience, however it is an essential part of minimising the number of people in school.

For the time being, we ask parents not to use the reception foyer as a waiting area at the start and end of the school day.

If you need to meet with your child's teacher about a concern you have, this will have to be done by telephone. Please email the school office to arrange a convenient time.

We appreciate your support and cooperation at this difficult time. We hope these circumstances are not too much of an inconvenience but it is important we all follow the guidance and advice we have at this time. As I am sure you are aware, this advice could change at any time.

If schools are directed to close in the future, please be reassured that we have a strategy in place so that your children will continue to receive an education. More information will be sent to you if and when the time comes.

I will endeavour to keep parents informed in a timely manner should any circumstances change.

Yours sincerely

Helen Spearing