



Dear Parents/Carers,

Given the serious health concerns relating to the current Coronavirus outbreak, we have been closely monitoring Government updates and rapidly changing official advice. The safety and wellbeing of our children, families and staff is our priority concern - any actions and decisions will be taken with this in mind, as we all want to reduce unnecessary exposure to the Covid 19 virus. It has therefore been decided that all activities that result in contact with groups of people outside the immediate school population will be cancelled for the time being. I have made this decision in order to minimise the risk to all of us; it does make me sad to take such action, especially when our pupils gain so much from school activities.

Unfortunately, this means that the following calendar events here at St Jude's will now not take place:

- Tues 17th March—Y5 trip—Drawing Harry Potter—Birmingham Town Hall
- Wed 18th March—Nursery trip—Mount Pleasant Farm
- Wed 18th March—Y6 trip—Shakespeare's stories—Birmingham Town Hall
- Thurs 19th March—Y3 trip –The Nothing To See Here Hotel—Birmingham Town Hall
- Thurs 19th March—Reception class assembly
- Wed 2nd April—Year 1 Multi-skills PE Festival
- Thurs 2nd April—Y2 Multi-skills PE Festival
- Thurs 2nd April—Y3/4 Stations of the Cross at 9.15am in St. Jude's Church
- Fri 3rd April—Academy Photography to take photos of classes and groups.

Furthermore, the following activities will also be affected:

- All School Trips will be cancelled until further notice.
- No visits into the local school community.
- All sports competitions between schools have been cancelled.
- After-school sports clubs will be cancelled.
- Swimming Lessons until advice to the contrary.
- No children's performances with parental audiences.

We receive regularly updates from the Department for Education and Public Health England. We will ensure that where possible, events can be rescheduled later. Pupil attendance and staffing situations are being closely monitored on a daily basis to inform further decisions. We will continue to review events for after the Easter Holidays and update you accordingly.

There is also the possibility that outside agencies (SEND related) due to come in for meetings with parents and children, may be deferred in light of the present situation. Guidance will be given by Birmingham Local Authority and we will inform parents and those affected as soon as possible.

In the meantime, if you or your child are displaying the following symptoms:

- A high Temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough. Please follow the Government advice, which specifically is to stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days.

If symptoms become too difficult to deal with at home or do not go away after 7 days then you are required to call NHS 111 online. School cannot give independent advice about whether a child should attend school or not – this must be in strict accordance with Government guidelines.

It is difficult to know about whether schools will close early for Easter or not. In the event of a school closure, I can assure you that we already have work in place that you can complete with your child. It is also very important that we have your correct contact details. Please inform us if your phone number changes.

Please all take care of one another, follow Government guidance and stay safe. Thank you for your continued support.

God Bless,

Mrs Smith (Headteacher)