



ST. ALDHELM'S VA CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHELYNCH PARK, DOULTING, SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET, BA4 4PL

Tel: (01749) 880376

www.staldhelms.co.uk

staldhelmsoffice@educ.somerset.gov.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs P Cohen

Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

On Friday, there were some changes to the advice for education settings from Public Health England in relation to the Coronavirus outbreak, as the country moves from the contain to delay phase. As a result of this, I thought it would be sensible for you to understand the actions we will now be taking at school.

Firstly, children, staff, volunteers and parents who display the symptoms of Coronavirus, in particular a fever and/or continuous cough, must now self-isolate for 7 days. We would ask that parents and carers notify schools in the usual manner if their child will not be attending school.

Self-isolation guidance will apply to all staff and adults that work in our school and therefore we may experience a higher than normal staff absence rate. I would ask that you are patient with us, if we need to rearrange staffing to ensure we can continue to run as normal. As a reminder, we are not permitted to close any school without the permission of Public Health England. However, if we reach a point where we are not able to operate safely due to a lack of staff, it may be necessary to close for this reason. We will of course inform you as soon as we are aware of this. If your child is absent from school and they are not too unwell, they should try to continue with their learning. Reading is an important part of children's learning and it is vital this continues at home. If we are required to close, work will be provided for children to undertake at home. This will be communicated via ClassDojo on individual class stories with any links to online resources as needed.

Notification of any school closure will be communicated through email and also recorded on the school website staldhelms.co.uk

Secondly, we were lucky to be able to carry out our Year 5 residential to Kilve last week. We will plan to go ahead with our Year 6 Budden's Camp in June unless we receive advice from Public Health England to the contrary during the next couple of months.

Thank you for your continued support and as the situation changes, I will write with further updates.

Kind regards

Pippa Cohen

Headteacher