



Diocese of Salisbury  
Academy Trust  
*'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'*

Diocesan Education Centre  
The Avenue, Wilton  
Wiltshire, SP2 0FG  
Telephone: 01722 746948  
Email: [office@dsat.org.uk](mailto:office@dsat.org.uk)  
[www.dsat.org.uk](http://www.dsat.org.uk)

13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE (COVID-19)**

At the risk of information overload, I wanted to write briefly to provide an update on the latest advice and steps we are taking to support you and your family. I will not repeat everything shared in my letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> March although much of that remains highly relevant.

In many ways the government advice announced on Thursday is very similar to that given previously. We encourage you to look at the GOV.UK website for the full details. We all need to continue to be vigilant with regards to hand-washing and hygiene and to continue largely with business as usual.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

### **Contingency Plans**

As things develop over the next period of time, our schools are making preparations for the possibility of closure should this be necessary. Our default position is that our schools will remain open until we are told otherwise, or unless it becomes difficult through staff illness or self-isolation. Should closure occur, we will have plans in place to ensure that children's learning can continue as best we can. Your child's Headteacher will be in touch with you about plans for this in the coming weeks.

### **Latest Guidance**

The latest guidance issued yesterday has brought the following changes to previous advice, which we are applying to pupils as well as adults:

#### **Symptoms**

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

#### **Key messages**

- 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. (See Ending Isolation section below for more information)
- this action will help protect others in your community whilst you are infectious.
- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home.
- ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home.
- stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home whenever possible.
- sleep alone, if that is possible.
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water.

- stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions as much as possible.
- you do not need to call NHS111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

#### **Ending self-isolation**

- You should remain at home until 7 days after the onset of your symptoms. After 7 days, if you feel better and no longer have a high temperature, you can return to your normal routine. If you have not had any signs of improvement and have not already sought medical advice, you should contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111.
- Cough may persist for several weeks in some people, despite the coronavirus infection having cleared. A persistent cough alone does not mean you must continue to self-isolate for more than 7 days.

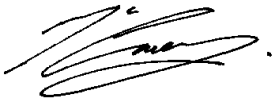
There is much more useful guidance at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

#### **Travel abroad**

With the Easter holidays approaching, if you are planning to travel abroad, please ensure that you are following government advice before travelling and upon returning, keeping the school informed of any issues that may arise. It is not our business to pry into your personal arrangements, but the more you are able to share with us, the better prepared we can all be.

Thank you for your continued support. We will keep you updated as and when necessary but the best thing you can do is keep aware of the daily government updates at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

Best wishes,



Mark Lacey  
Chief Executive





HM Government



# **CORONAVIRUS**

## **WASH YOUR HANDS MORE OFTEN FOR 20 SECONDS**

**Use soap and water or a  
hand sanitiser when you:**

Get home or into work

Blow your nose, sneeze or cough

Eat or handle food

**CORONAVIRUS**

**PROTECT  
YOURSELF  
& OTHERS**

For more information and the Government's  
Action Plan go to **nhs.uk/coronavirus**