



St. John's RC School
Turpins Lane, Woodford Bridge
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office@stjohnsrcschool.co.uk
www.stjohnsrcschool.co.uk
Head of School: Mrs Wendy Killilea

20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: School Opening

As you know we have been continually monitoring the guidance that has been issued by the Government and the Department for Education who have advised that at this time all special schools should remain open wherever possible.

With effect from Monday 23rd March 2020 we will be offering a reduced provision and the school will open to healthy students between 10.00am – 2.00pm. Parents will need to contact their Local Authority transport departments if they wish for their child to continue attending at these reduced times. If Local Authorities are not able to help with transport arrangements and you would like your child to attend school you must ensure that you can bring your child in and also collect at them at 2.00pm. We are not able to have students on site past this time.

We will be offering an amended timetable and will offer the best services possible but as I am sure you can appreciate we are operating with significantly reduced staffing. Any students that do attend are not required to wear uniform. If you choose not to send your child in it will be recorded as an authorised absence.

We will be reviewing the situation on a daily basis and will continue to offer this service whilst we have the staffing capacity to maintain a safe environment for our students and staff. Currently we have 45 members of staff who are not in attendance at school.

If your child does attend school and starts to show signs of a new persistent cough or temperature then parents/carers will be contacted and your child will have to be collected. We will continue to take protective measures to ensure that the students who attend school are healthy and this will include regular daily temperature monitoring.

If your child has an underlying health condition which places them at an increased risk and you choose to send your child into school we will require authorisation from you for them to be on site. Attached is an authorisation form that must be completed and returned, without this we will not be able to accept your child and will have to send them home.

Could you please email office@stjohnsrcschool.co.uk by 3.30pm today to confirm whether or not your child will be attending school on Monday, this will allow for appropriate arrangements to be made.

As always, if you have any concerns regarding the Coronavirus, Sarah Whelan, the Education Health Care Lead is able to speak with you.

I am sure you can appreciate this is a time of increased uncertainty for everyone and as a school we must take necessary precautions to ensure your child, students and staff health and wellbeing. Therefore, everyone must follow this key principle from the Government Guidance:

If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.

Please continue to check the school website for further updates and once again thank you for your support and cooperation in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Wendy Killilea
Head of School

Authorisation for School Attendance

Students Name:

I can confirm that although my child has an underlying health condition which may place them at greater risk, I hereby give authorisation for my child to attend school. Please indicate condition/s that your child has been diagnosed with.

Underlying Health Conditions include:-

- Chronic (long terms) respiratory diseases, such as asthma (that requires an inhaled or tablet steroid treatment, or has led to hospital admission in the past
- Any heart related condition
- Diabetes
- A weakened immune system
- Other, please specify:

I confirm that I will be available to collect him/her at any time should they become unwell with a cough or a temperature of 37.8 or above.

Name:

Signed:

Date: