

16 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19 Virus Update

You will be aware that we are putting provisions in place should we have to close or partially close the school, as directed by the Government or due to staffing reduction. **To aid our planning, please can you complete a quick survey by following this link: [St Mark's Parent Employment Survey](#)**

This is entirely optional, however it will enable us to plan for pupil learning and appropriate pastoral care, as well as contingency planning. Please see our school Privacy Notice if you want to know more about how we use information. This is available here: [St Mark's Academy Policies](#). At this stage we are still waiting for firm guidance from the Department for Education, however as soon as we know more, we will communicate with you. The information we are gathering will just help us respond quickly.

As it stands, there are still no known cases of COVID-19 among our staff or student groups. As a precautionary measure, a number of families have taken the decision to self-isolate in accordance with the current advice about what to do if you experience possible symptoms – namely:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

We continually advise our families to follow the guidance as directed by NHS which can be found here <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We continue to be advised by the Government, Public Health England and Anthem Schools Trust, and will update you via our school website and Parent Mail of any further developments.

Please bear with us through these challenging times and be assured that we are doing our very best to respond to this rapidly evolving situation in the interests of everyone in our school community. I understand that this is a very concerning time for everyone and I wish all our families good health during these uncertain times.

With Love, Hope & Trust,



Lisa Peterkin
Principal

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