

Dear Parents,

We are preparing for potential social distancing measures and / or school closure as this term is becoming more commonly used with regard to the government response to the coronavirus pandemic.

In the event of school closure, the children will continue their learning from home. In order to facilitate this, we would be grateful if you could ensure that the following set-up is available for children at home:

- One internet-enabled device per child for children in Years 3+ (this could be a PC, laptop or iPad with keyboard. Smart phones may be used if nothing else is available, but these are not ideal
- Headphones for each child
- A suitable working space
- Stationery (pens, paper, pencils)

Your child's log in details for MSOffice and email (we will re-issue all children with their log in details to support this)

The main learning platforms that we will be using are:

Tapestry for Early Years and Year 1&2 will have work shared on the Parent Portal in the first instance

MSOffice and MS Teams for children in Years 3-8

SeeSaw for children in Years 5-8

We will also continue to use websites that the children are familiar with including Linguascope, Pearson ActiveLearn, Doodle, Espresso, RM EasiMaths, Planet Bofa etc.

We expect the focus to be on academic learning in the mornings and creative and physical activity in the afternoon. We are exploring the logistics of registration for off-site learning and we will update you on this in due course.

In the event of school closure, we are likely to require the first day to be used for staff training and set up of the appropriate timetable and curriculum. Scheduled learning would begin on day 2. We would, of course, be prepared with some activities for day 1 but these would not be interactive with teachers whilst we are ensuring that we have the training and skills required to move forward effectively.

In accordance with updated government advice from today, if your child has a "new, continuous" cough or a high temperature* then they should remain at home, in isolation, for seven days.

*The threshold for a high temperature is 37.8C (100F).

If we have children in school who develop either/ both of these symptoms, we will call you to come and collect as soon as possible. Please do not send a child to school with either of these symptoms. Until such point that you can collect them, we will have to isolate them at school. Children kept at home due to the symptoms, or sent home from school, will be required to remain at home, off school for 7 days.

The link to the advice sheet produced by the government today can be found below;

<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>

In addition to the new advice relating to a persistent cough and high temperature, the government has also advised that overseas school trips will need to be cancelled. We will be in touch separately with those affected by the ski trip and, potentially, the music tour once we have been in contact with the tour operators.

As always, we continue at school to reinforce the highest levels of hygiene and hand washing.

We will continue to keep you up to date with any changes to the circumstances at St Michael's.

Mr Wiseman, Mrs Bridges and Mrs Leech