



## SAINT PETER'S METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Doing all the good we can, through faith, love and excellence"

Headteacher: Mrs Kristina Dyer

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are probably aware, the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We are getting in touch to let you know what we are doing in light of this, and what we expect from all of you, to help make sure our school community keeps safe and calm.

We would like to reassure you that at St. Peter's Methodist Primary School we are taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and local authority.

What's the current situation?

- The school remains open – this is the current official guidance we have been given, we will only close if we are either officially advised to do so, or if we do not have enough staff to run the school.
- All school functions continue to run as normal, including breakfast and after-school clubs.

Pupils should attend school unless they feel unwell – if your child has any of the following symptoms they should remain at home for 7 days:

- A new, continuous cough and/or
- A temperature

If your child is unwell, report this as you would normally by phoning the office on 01227 464392

- The upcoming trip for Class 1 to Wingham, is now postponed to a new date to be confirmed.
- Swimming for Class 4 will continue for now, following current guidance from the National Swimming Association.

We will keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff:

- As well as our normal daily cleaning schedule, we have increased this to include daily cleaning of surfaces that are regularly touched.



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- Enforcing more regular hand-washing and using hand sanitisers
- Lessons for pupils about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety
- Collective worship will be in class rather than whole school gathering in the hall

What we need you to do:

- If you have recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office as soon as possible via email/telephone.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It is a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. BBC Newsround has regular updates for younger children and YoungMinds has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)

If you have any questions, please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this issue.
- NHS, if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use NHS 111 online if at all possible before calling 111.
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools.
- Government's travel advice, if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you are taking abroad should go ahead.

It is a tricky time and we know you are worried about the impact this might have on our community. It is important we keep each other safe and talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Kristina Dyer  
Head Teacher