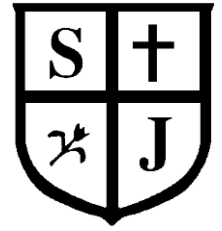
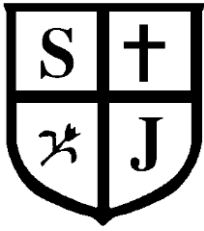


St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School

"A loving Christian family striving to achieve excellence"



Bewley Drive, Kirkby, Liverpool, L32 9PF
Phone: 0151 477 8170/3

Dear Parents/Carers,

This letter aims to update you on our preparations within school in response to the spread of Coronavirus (Covid 19). Updates from the Department for Education, Knowsley Council and Public Health England have been used as a basis for our planning. We recognise that people will understandably be concerned at this time, therefore we just want to reassure you that the school is monitoring the situation closely, is in regular contact with relevant authorities and has comprehensive plans in place. This will be a worrying time for you all and would like to assure you that comprehensive plans are in place in school.

Currently, there are no school closures in Knowsley. The Local Authority will continue to advise schools of actions in line with Government recommendations.

Day to Day Response

We are encouraging all of our staff and children to follow Public Health guidance and keep high levels of personal hygiene; this includes making sure that we are directing children/students and staff to wash their hands:

- before leaving home
- on arrival at school
- after using the toilet
- after breaks and sporting activities
- before food preparation
- before eating any food, including snacks
- before leaving school

Children can bring hand sanitiser to school with them to use throughout the day if they wish but please be assured that we have plenty of hand wash available in school for children to use. Our standard cleaning processes will continue but are also taking extra precautions within our cleaning arrangements and making sure that frequent contact points such as door handles are cleaned more regularly. Our Cleaning Provider has assured us that plans are in place to provide an enhanced or deep clean quickly as and when required.

We have talked to the children/students about the virus and how it is spread so that they can make sensible choices and follow the Public Health Guidance and ensure they carry tissues to 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it.'

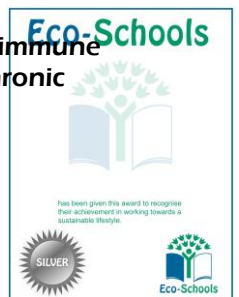
Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection

Generally, these infections can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic



lung disease. There is no evidence that children are more affected than other age groups – and it is important to remember that very few cases have been reported in children so far.

If you or a family member present with these symptoms the advice of health professionals is to self-isolate for 14 days. Guidance on <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>

After 7 days, if anyone is still unwell, then seek medical advice NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access call NHS 111. If symptoms worsen during your self-isolation, seek prompt medical advice.

If children feel better after 14 days and no longer have a temperature, they can return to school. The guidance does say that a cough may persist for several weeks in some people, despite the Coronavirus infection having cleared.

Reporting Absence:

All absences need to be reported by phoning the school office on 0151 477 8170, if you have already informed us that you are self-isolating for the advised period of 14 days you do not need to call us again. Please inform school if a member of your household has been confirmed by testing as having COVID 19.

Communication

We will use our school website <http://stjosephtheworkercps.co.uk/> to support passing on the messages from central government and any other important updates.

In the event of a closure, it is important that we are fully updated with a current email address for at least one parent. This communication will enable us to ensure all children continue to make progress in their learning. If you do not have access to email please let us know.

Planning in Place:

The Council is working to ensure that any local response to COVID-19 is co-ordinated and services to schools are included in this planning. Contingency plans are in place for Council services to schools and we are receiving regular updates in relation to this.

An important part of our preparations are making sure that we have contingency plans for a variety of scenarios, including a temporary closure if instructed to do so by Public Health England.

We have made the decision to cancel any non-essential visitors to school and staff have been instructed to not attend any non-essential meetings offsite.

Currently, we have planned for 3 separate scenarios:

1. Instruction from Government to close for a specified period of time
2. Instruction to implement social distancing and limit the contact of groups of people
3. Staff absence levels cause the need for closure

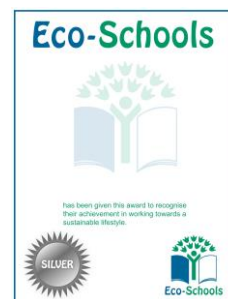
If any of the above occur, teachers will be setting work via a Google Drive system, information for parents will be sent out should it be needed.

Forthcoming Events at School:

We are reviewing all trips, events, fixtures and visits and will update as and when decisions are made. At present this will be on a case by case basis.

Therefore the following have regretfully been cancelled:

- Y5 SEN Reviews
- All Mother's Day Assemblies
- Y4 visit to All Saints
- Super Saturdays at All Saints



- Y4 Class Mass
- Y3 Assembly
- Y4 Assembly

We hope that implementing such plans will not be necessary but we will always make decisions with the needs, health and welfare of children first.

Thank you for your continued support and your understanding in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J. Ryan
Headteacher

