

# English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

High Street, Hillmorton, Rugby, CV21 4EE, ☎ 01788 543423

email: [admin3564@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3564@welearn365.com) ■ [www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs G Deery

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the situation around COVID-19 escalates nationally, we are preparing for the local situation to change and for more confirmed cases to be diagnosed. We are being guided by the experts at Public Health England who have established stringent criteria for if and when a school should close and for how long.

Head Teachers from schools across Rugby have met and have agreed, that until we are advised otherwise, we will maintain business as usual and keep disruption to our children's learning to a minimum. However, the health and safety of the children, staff and wider community has to be our priority and we have to play our part in preventing the spread of the virus.

In light of yesterday's government announcement that the UK is moving from the 'Containment' to the 'Delay' stage of its pandemic contingency plan, English Martyrs School will remain open as normal and will continue to provide morning and after school clubs and our usual extra-curricular activities.

However, following government guidance to minimise social interactions as far as possible and to restrict the possibility of the spread of the virus, schools in Rugby will be limiting interactions with the wider community by cancelling:

- Whole School Assemblies
- Parent Consultation Meetings
- Parent Assemblies
- School Performances (Easter Service & presentations cancelled on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. No Masses)
- Educational Trips
- Swimming (Year 4 –Friday mornings)
- PTFA/Social Events
- Staff Training offsite
- Inter-school sports events/competitions

To support the school in this, 'social-distancing' policy we would ask parents to limit physical communications with school, and where possible, use email or the telephone to contact us. All monies are to be put in a labelled envelope and placed inside the white letterbox in the reception area and not handed directly to Miss Sands. Parents are not to come in to the school office to pass on messages unless urgent. We would also ask that parents/carers do not come in to either the Ark Building or the Main school Building including the cloakrooms. We will be allowing children in to the school building from 8:45am so that parents can see their children enter the building and it will avoid a big gathering on the playground at the start of the day.

These measures will take effect from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. All events will be rearranged as soon as the situation improves.

We will continue to update you regularly as the situation progresses. We would also recommend you continue to look at the following sources of information to keep yourself informed of all the latest information and advice:

- The Department for Education has established a helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows: Phone: 0800 046 8687  
Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk) Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)
- Detailed information and advice for the public and returning travellers can be found on the NHS.uk website (and will be regularly updated): [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus)
- Further information for the public about the situation can be found here (and will be regularly updated): [gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public](https://gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public).



Archdiocese of Birmingham in partnership with Warwickshire County Council

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If you are worried about symptoms or need specific advice please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Deery  
Head Teacher

