



# St. Lucia's Church of England Primary School Upton Magna

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Head Teacher – Mrs S. L. Woolley  
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18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

## **COVID -19 (Coronavirus) Update**

We write again to provide further updates to parents on the Coronavirus, although as we are all aware from government guidance, this is a constantly changing picture.

As outlined in the letter on Monday, the school is already following the advice and guidance from many relevant sources including; the government; Public Health, Department for Education; Shropshire Council and Lichfield Diocese. Additional cleaning has been in place and we continue with regular hand washing for everyone.

Please be aware that all schools can experience absences every day for a wide variety of reasons. As of today, we have no confirmed cases of any member within our school community having tested positive for the Coronavirus. A small number of families are choosing to self-isolate due to their own individual circumstances, by following medical guidance, or due to underlying health issues, but purely as precautionary measures. We understand this to be the case within lots of other settings too. Once self-isolation starts, the guidance is for the whole family to stay in isolation for 14 days. If your child is absent, please clarify the reason for this when ringing the school to enable the correct code to be recorded on the register.

We strongly encourage parents to keep up to date with the government's advice as guidance changes for us all on a daily basis. Following the government updates on Monday evening, we have since received notification of future sporting events and larger gatherings being postponed or cancelled. As a precautionary measure, the following trips, visitors to school and additional events listed below will not go ahead as planned.

This will include:

Key Stage 2 swimming (Thursdays)

The Caribbean workshops

The Easter Experience (KS2)

Parents' open afternoon

Parents' appointments

The Easter service

Any Easter events organised by the St Lucia's Friends

The Shrewsbury Half-Marathon has been postponed until Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020

If any significant changes occur within the school linked to the Coronavirus, we will inform parents straight away. Many of you may remember the difficult national outbreak of the Norovirus before Christmas when many children experienced coughs, colds and some sickness. As we did then, and as we continue to do now, the school tries to remain calm by taking all relevant guidance from Public Health, the Government and Shropshire Council. The measures enforced then meant that children recovered and were able to take part in the previously postponed Christmas events including the Key Stage 2 Christmas production.

We appreciate the parents who are fully supporting the school by sending in water bottles, tissues and remaining calm. Yet again we have been made aware of parents sharing inaccurate and unsupportive comments and posts on social media. In the current climate when we are ALL vulnerable and concerned, please be mindful of the impact of misinformation and negative comments on the well-being of the whole school community. These are difficult times for us all and we really need to be supportive as a school community.

Please ensure we have the most up to date telephone contact details for your child and an email address if you have one.

As you will have seen, the government advice remains for schools to stay open, unless there have been any positive confirmed cases of the Coronavirus from medical professionals, or in the event of significant staffing issues neither of which we are currently experiencing. It is worth reminding ourselves that as of today, there have only been 2 identified cases of the Coronavirus outbreak from 320,274 people living in Shropshire. Telford and Wrekin have reported no cases of the outbreak from a total of 177,799 people.

In the event of the school being directed to close, parents will be informed by text message and signposted to the school's website. Learning packs will also be made available for the children in the forms of books, suggested activities and signposting to educational websites.

As of 2pm today, the government have decided to close all schools in Scotland and Wales from Friday. Further government decisions on school closures in England were 'to be taken imminently.'

We thank you in anticipation of your support in this continuing difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S.L. Woolley

Head teacher