

Holy Family News



Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure you are aware the government have announced a gradual re-opening of schools for certain year groups: Year 6, Year 1, Reception and Nursery.

More information is being given to schools on a daily basis. The purpose of this letter is to share the outline of current guidance. Please take the time to read it.

Coronavirus: How is it spread? (taken from government publications)

- Transmission of coronavirus mainly occurs via respiratory droplets generated during breathing, talking, coughing and sneezing. These droplets can directly infect the respiratory tracts of other people if there is close contact.
- They also infect others indirectly. This happens when the droplets get onto and contaminate surfaces which are then touched and introduced into the mouth or eyes of an uninfected person.
- Another route of transmission is via aerosols (extremely small droplets), but this is only relevant to medical procedures for a very small number of children in education and social care settings.

How to prevent it spreading? (taken from government publications)

In all education, childcare and children's social care settings, preventing the spread of coronavirus involves preventing:

- **direct transmission, for instance, when in close contact with those sneezing and coughing.**
- **indirect transmission, for instance, touching contaminated surfaces.**

How do schools stop the spread? (taken from government publications)

Advice from the government:

1. Minimise contact with people/children who are unwell.
2. Clean your hands often.
3. **Respiratory Hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it)**
4. **Clean surfaces that are touched frequently**
5. **Minimise contact and mixing between people/ children**
6. PPE only needed in certain instances eg. When a child is sick.

So what happens next?

School will be completing a risk assessment to help reduce the risk for children, staff, families and the wider community. As parents of young children I know you will be fully aware of the difficulties school face when minimising the spread of infections such as chicken pox. The implications of the spread of coronavirus has been seen daily on the news causing heartbreak to thousands of people. I would like to reassure you that school is taking this matter very seriously and will only reopen when deemed to be safe following an in depth risk assessment. The points highlighted in red are of particular concern with our younger children whose learning takes place through play. When school does re-open it will look different to how it was before it was closed to the majority of children. There is nothing the staff or I want more than to see your children back at school with us enjoying learning, but the safety of your children, families and our staff will be our main priority. I will provide more information once the risk assessment has been completed. **If you need any help or support please contact school.**

Please take care and stay safe.

Mrs Booth Headteacher