



### ALL SAINTS BENHILTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

All Saints Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 3DA.

Tel: 020 8644 6492

Email: [office@allsaintsbenhilton.org.uk](mailto:office@allsaintsbenhilton.org.uk)

*Headteacher: Karen Stanley-Bristowe*

Dear Parents/ Carers,

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

As you're 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're getting in touch to let you know what we're 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'd like to reassure you that at All Saints Benhilton we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government, SDBE and the local authority.

#### What's the current situation?

- The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance we've been given
- All school functions continue to run as normal but please see the risk assessment which was sent out last week and is available on the school website. This plans is a guide on what we plan to do but maybe subject to change if necessary. Currently, whole school Worship has been suspended with replaced with daily Class Worship in the classroom. Trips that include using transport and visiting large crowded areas have been postponed. The Easter Experience will take place for Year 4 children as they will be walking to and from the venue and it is only our school attending. All cleaning and precautionary measures have been carried out by the organisation.
- **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 call or emailing the school office.
- **We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation**

I understand that some of you are very worried about your children and therefore as that if you, your child or anyone else in your household is unwell then you **remain at home for 7 days**. If you choose not to send your child into school I respect your decision to do so, but this will be classed as unauthorised absence. **Unless the school is closed we will not be sending work home. Online platforms and free resources will be emailed out to you by the class teachers if closure takes place.**

#### What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

See our risk assessment on ways we are doing this.

#### What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.

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- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's 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)

#### **While you are staying at home, make sure you do the following things:**

- You remain in your home. Do not go to work, school or public areas, and do not use public transport or taxis. You cannot go for a walk.
- At home, try as best you can to separate yourself from the people you live with.
- Ask friends and family to drop off anything you need or order supplies online.
- Keep in touch with friends and family over the phone or through social media.
- Keep busy with activities such as reading, cooking, online learning and watching films. Take light exercise in your home.

#### **What happens if the school has to close?**

We'll only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school.

In either case, we'll:

- Alert parents to closure, via text, email and it will be posted on our school website and Twitter feed
- The same will apply to let you know when the school will be reopened
- Information will be sent to you at this time on our plans to set work for pupils during closure and what we will be expecting parents to do.
- Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

#### **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

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> Government's [travel advice](#), if you want to know whether any upcoming trip or holiday you're taking abroad should go ahead

It's a tricky time and we know you're worried about the impact this might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe and continue to talk about these events to help ameliorate any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Stanley-Bristowe

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