



St Ives Infant School  
Trenwith Burrows  
St Ives  
Cornwall  
TR26 1DH  
Tel: 01736 796628 Fax: 01736 797496  
E Mail: [secretary@st-ives-inf.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@st-ives-inf.cornwall.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents/Carers

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 St Ives Infant School we're taking all the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government.

#### 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 including breakfast club and after school activities
- Pupils should attend 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 phoning the office before the start of the school day
- We'll keep you up to date with any changes to the current situation

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

- If a child develops any symptoms, we will be contacting parents/carers immediately for them to collect from school.
- All staff are also following the guidance and will be self-isolating if they develop any symptoms
- Thorough cleaning of the school
- Regular handwashing with all pupils and hand sanitizers are in place
- Lessons and assemblies for pupils about hygiene and how to deal with anxiety

#### What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via email or telephone. You can also pass your written details to your child's class teacher
- 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 [Young Minds](#) 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)

### **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 will:

- Post on the school website and Facebook page
- Send text messages
- We will notify you of when school will reopen in the same way
- We propose to send suggested activities and work to do whilst at home in the event of a closure. Details of these will come out with the children and will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

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
- 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 talk about these events to help with any anxiety.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Leisa Farrar  
Headteacher