



We love, value and respect each other.

St Godric's RC VA Primary School

Carrhouse Drive,
Framwellgate Moor,
Durham,
DH1 5LZ

Tel No: 0191 3847452 Fax No: 0191 3864995

E-mail: durhamstgodric@durhamlearning.net

School Website: www.st-godricsrc.durham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs C Craig

11th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Given the recent developments around the Coronavirus Covid-19, I thought that it would be helpful to give you our response to the issue and the continued activities of the school. We are aware that the Italian Government has already closed schools and that the UK Government may consider the same move.

Most importantly, I want to reassure parents that while we are continuing to operate a 'business as usual approach' at St. Godric's, we are also preparing for the possibility that we may need to change how the school functions. **At this point, we are not proposing to close our buildings to pupils**, but there is a possibility that at some point we may be required to do so. I would encourage parents to talk to their children about developments and to be calm but vigilant, while the school steps up preparations, *should* we need to function differently.

I thought that it would be useful to remind parents of the school's current position:

- We are monitoring the situation on a daily basis and we encourage parents to access the most recent information about the Coronavirus, protecting yourselves and others on the dedicated Public Health England website <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>. This is a dynamic situation and PHE's advice is changing regularly, so please stay informed. In particular, please reinforce at home all of the 'good hygiene' messages from PHE, something we are constantly reminding students of in school.
- We are working with service providers to establish the risk of children attending external events and looking at each case in turn. At this point, we are not proposing to cancel any internal forthcoming school events, but again we would remind all those who come into school to practise the good hygiene advised by PHE, specifically washing hands on arrival at the school and refraining from handshaking, which we believe acts as a good reminder to monitor hygiene. The parish have decided to limit all liturgies, services and Masses in order to prevent the spread of the virus. There will now only be Mass celebrated in the school hall on a Wednesday morning at 9.15am.
- Again, at this point we are not proposing to close the school building, but, learning from the experience of schools in Asia, we are preparing for the situation where we may need to deliver



- teaching remotely. Staff will be providing a list of educational activities that can be accessed by the children from the website.

There is a great deal happening behind the scenes, to ensure that we can continue to deliver a programme of learning, should we need to do this remotely, and of course maintain our core business functions. We are working hard to develop creative solutions in this unprecedented situation. We will keep you informed with our contingency planning, as and when developments necessitate this.

Thank you for your continued support with this matter, if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Craig

Mrs CM Craig
Headteacher