



ELLESMERE PORT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

'I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full' John 10.10

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced new measures and advice to the general public in relation to Covid-19. The following advice supersedes all previous advice given and should be read carefully.

If your child is well they should attend school.

However, if they present with any symptoms of;

- **A high temperature and/or**
- **A new continuous cough**

then they should remain at home in isolation for 14 days.

In addition, anyone in the same household should also self-isolate for 14 days regardless of whether they have symptoms themselves.

Moreover, any child who presents these symptoms at school will be isolated and parents/guardians will be called immediately to collect them.

Also, it is advised to stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel. The Prime Minister also added that 'We need people to start working from home where they possibly can. And you should avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and other such social venues.'

These are wide ranging decisions that will affect all of us in some way. As a school we have made preparations to enable learning to continue. Students will be able to use an online platform, on which teachers will provide resources / handouts, deliver their lessons by video link if able to do so, and where students can complete assignments. This platform is accessible via the web address <https://teams.office.com>, or via a link (**'Online Classes'**) which we have created on the **'Students'** menu on the home page of the school website (<https://epchs.co.uk/>).

In addition to this, there are links to platforms, such as **Show My Homework, Hegarty Maths, Google Classroom** and **Seneca**. Here, staff can set additional work for students to complete in order to support their learning.

Students simply log in with their school email address which has the following format:

schoolusername@stu.epchs.co.uk for example: 19jbloggs@stu.epchs.co.uk. Students will also need to enter a password; this is the same password that they use to log on to the computers at school.

We should still follow the advice on general hygiene and measures we can take to limit and delay the virus which are to:

Capenhurst Lane, Whitby, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 7AQ
Tel: 0151 355 2373 Attendance Line: 0151 513 4453 Fax: 0151 355 7543
Email: admin@email.epchs.co.uk www.epchs.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs C. Vile B.Ed. Hons



1. wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds,
2. always wash your hands when you get home or into work,
3. use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available,
4. cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze,
5. put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards,
6. try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell,
7. not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean,

As a school we are in regular communication with Public Health England and Department for Education over measures which we as a school can take in response to the current situation and the situation remains that there is no requirement for school to do anything other than the measures detailed above.

At times such as this, misinformation and speculation can only serve to do more than harm than good, and we are notifying you to ensure that we all comply with government restrictions. I want to be open and transparent about measures we have and will continue to take based on expert advice.

At school we have taken sensible precautions such as;

- Ensure we have enough hand wash for all pupils.
- Discussed with students how to wash their hands properly and I urge parents to repeat this at home.
- Double checked our critical incident plan to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Distributed posters around the building to raise awareness and promote good hygiene.
- Cancelled all assemblies.
- Cancelled all non-urgent visitors to school and teacher courses.
- Cancelled all non-essential whole school activities.

The advice continues to state that school should be open for business as usual. We are taking all the precautions possible. Students who are well should still attend school.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Vile
Headteacher

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Our Lady Star of the Sea, St Bernard, St Mary of the Angels and St Saviour, serving the pastoral area of Ellesmere Port

