



**Rainhill St Ann's CE Primary School**  
 View Road, Rainhill, Merseyside, L35 0LQ  
 Tel 0151 426 5869, [www.rainhillstanns.co.uk](http://www.rainhillstanns.co.uk)  
 Twitter: [@StAnnsRainhill](https://twitter.com/StAnnsRainhill)  
 Headteacher: Mrs Laura Rynn



*Always our best for God, each other and ourselves.*

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

### General update

As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. That is why the government has given clear guidance on self-isolation, household isolation and social distancing. And the most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. **If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.** That is why the government has asked parents to **keep their children at home, wherever possible**, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a **limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response** and cannot be safely cared for at home.

### Key workers with specific and essential roles include

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

We now know which children will be in school during this period. A separate letter will be issued to the families who fall into the government categories.

### Changes in circumstances

If your circumstances change during the school closure, please inform school in the usual way (via member of staff or school office).

### Symptoms of Covid-19

In addition to this, if your child/ren begin to show the symptoms of COVID-19, they will not be able to attend to school for 14 days and will need to remain at home in isolation. The symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

### Hygiene at home

Parents/ carers can support us by ensuring good hygiene measures at home, keeping school informed about their child's and family members' health and contacting NHS on 111 should concerns about a child's health emerge. The





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Department for Education coronavirus helpline is also available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Parents/ carers can contact this helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687  
Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday), 10am to 4pm (Saturday to Sunday)

### Residential

We have been in touch with the companies who run our three residentials that we have planned for this academic year – Kingswood, Bushcraft and France, to find out their current position. We are awaiting communication back from the companies and will email you as soon as possible with the outcome to their response.

### What can I do while my child is at home?

As part of our strategy for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, packages of work have been created for all pupils at home to complete. The package is a fortnight's worth of work. We understand that parents/ carers will have other commitments, so we have created a pack that we hope you feel is fair, accessible and manageable.

**Should school remain closed after the Easter holidays, we will be issuing pupils with education books published by CGP to complete at home. We will issue further communication about how you will be able to collect these from school.**

Don't forget children also have access to the following online resources (usernames and passwords can be found in the child's Home School Diary):

- **Bug Club** <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>  
Children should continue to read daily from the books on this site
- **TT Rockstars** <https://trockstars.com/>  
Daily practice of times tables is recommended
- **Spelling Shed** <https://www.spellingshed.com/>  
Spelling Shed contains the children's weekly spellings
- **Purple Mash** <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/jennie>  
This contains computing, science, maths, grammar tasks

Remember, one of the best ways your child can spend their time is by **reading!** Our suggestion is that children continue to read every day so that they do not begin to lose their reading skills.

We have sent home a pencil/ pen so that children can work at home. Children are only expected to complete this work if they are fit and well.

Also find attached a separate list of activities that you may wish to do with your child. Completion of these will be dependent on whether the country goes into lockdown.





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### **Safeguarding**

Whilst the school is closed, our duty and responsibility to safeguarding our pupils remains. Our regular check ins with families needing a bit of extra help and support will continue throughout the period of school closure, just as if the school was open. Please do not feel offended if a member of school staff calls to check in with you, and to speak to your child. If you have any safeguarding concerns whilst the school is closed, for your child or for any other pupil from the school, please contact Mrs Rynn via the school office.

Today we have talked to the children about how to stay safe while they are at home. They are aware if they want to communicate to school they can do this via the 'Need to Talk' button on our website.

Please monitor your child's online activity throughout the school closure, as it is likely they may use electronic devices more often than is ideal. This also includes monitoring what children are watching on screens.

### **How to manage mental health and wellbeing around coronavirus?**

The Coronavirus is causing much worry to people and families. Please have a look at the picture attached to this letter for ways you can manage anxiety around this subject.

### **Message from our local foodbank**

We're still supporting people with emergency food, but we are running a reduced service due to measures put in place to slow the spread of #covid19. Emergency help will continue to be available and below at the foodbank hubs listed below:

**Tuesdays and Fridays - 11am - 2.30pm St Helens CLC in Atherton Street, WA10 2DT**

**Wednesdays 11.30am - 1.30pm St Johns the Baptist Church, St John Street, Earlestown WA12 9NW**

Unfortunately, Holy Trinity, Fingerpost and Hall Street Baptist Church are now closed for the foreseeable future. On entering the building people will be asked to use the hand sanitizer. There will be no wraparound service so that means no drinks or food will be available or signposting to minimise contact and people will be encouraged to leave the premises as soon as they have received their food hamper. It's hard for us to say how things will unfold in the coming weeks with #covid19, but we will continue to provide help wherever possible and if anything changes, we'll let you know immediately. The foodbank office at the Hope Centre will still be open Monday to Fri day to receive donations.

In order to get assistance from the foodbank, you must have a voucher. If this is something that you think you need, please contact Mrs Rynn in school. This can be done through the school office.





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**When will school reopen?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to answer the question at this stage but as soon as we have any information, we will contact you immediately.

Should you require any further clarification around our planned provision for this pupil group, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the senior leadership team.

**We wish all our children and families a safe period away from school. Please keep following the government guidance and we hope to see you very soon.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rynn  
 Headteacher

## MANAGING CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) ANXIETY

BlessingManifesting

**For You**

- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage
- Connect through calls/text/internet
- Add extra time for daily stress relief
- Practice self-care
- Focus on your mental health

**For Kids**

- Reassure them that they're safe
- Let them talk about their worries
- Share your own coping skills
- Limit their news exposure
- Create a routine & structure

**For Quarantine/Isolation**

- Keep in contact with your loved ones via social media, texts, and phone calls
- Create a daily self-care routine
- Keep yourself busy: games, books, movies
- Focus on new relaxation techniques

