

Head Teacher
N.Fisher MA, BA(Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Deputy Head Teacher
D.Evans BEd(Hons), PGCE

School Business Manager
S.Goddard DSHM

18 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) – UPDATE

Following yesterday's letter, I am writing to further update you on the situation here at St Columba's. Unfortunately, more members of staff have notified us of their need to self-isolate following contact with potentially infected family members.

Therefore, we have reluctantly decided that the least disruptive approach for tomorrow is that Yr 8 will work from home using the resources that are already on the website, including Doodle and the PIXL '100 Points a Day' Challenge. The work should be completed in their subject exercise book, or where that is not possible, their blue 'Independent Learning' exercise books which were distributed to every student from last Friday onwards. This work should be completed neatly and to the best of their ability.

Students in other year groups should attend school as is normal.

This will be reviewed during the day tomorrow subject to guidance from the government.

Just to remind you that the Yr 7 Parents' Evening scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed.

Students have been told in assemblies and form times about the need to follow sensible precautions to avoid the spread of the virus. The site team have been focusing the cleaning effort on surfaces that people touch.

Just to remind you, the advice from the government is that anyone with a fever or persistent cough should stay at home for fourteen days or if anyone in the household develops those symptoms. I am aware that we have families who have already been forced to self-isolate. These students are able already to access Doodle and GCSEPod, and supporting work for students not in school will be available from the school website from tomorrow.

We would respectfully ask you not to email subject teachers at this juncture as staff are continuing to prepare for the eventuality of a whole-school closure on top of their normal teaching commitments.

We will update parents and carers tomorrow. Once again, please keep the students and staff of St Columba's in your prayers at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Mr Evans
Deputy Head Teacher

*Our school is an inclusive place of learning that celebrates and welcomes diversity.
Every member of our community is a unique and special creation of God and is known,
cared for and valued for the contribution they make.
Every student is challenged and supported to achieve his best.*

