



St Ursula's Convent School

A Humanities College and Teaching School

Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London, SE10 8HN

T: (0)20 8858 4613 F: (0)208 269 0237 E: admin@stursulas.com W: www.stursulas.com

Headteacher: Mrs Catrina Hamilton NPQH, Bed.Hons, Accredited SENCO

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) - Important update 18th March 2020

The government has made further changes to the guidance issued to the public about measures to combat COVID-19 in relation to households with symptoms, as well as stringent social distancing measures. Due to the impact this advice has had on the school staffing, it is not operationally possible to run the school safely and we have to put in place a partial school closure.

Therefore, from Thursday 19th March 2020 the school **will only be open to** students in:

Years 10 and 11.

We understand there are many pupils with parents / carers who work for the NHS / on the front line. The school is making contact with all parents/carers to compile a list, which will enable us to make arrangements for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 whose parents professions fall into those categories, to attend school if they need to.

Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 will need to **work at home** until you are advised that they can return to school. During this partial closure work will be set for all of the pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 remotely using Show My Homework (SMHW). All pupils are familiar with this platform and have been shown how to access it. All pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 are expected to complete all of the work set, which will be monitored by their teachers and Heads of Department. Parents will be contacted by email if their child does not meet these expectations.

This is the plan **currently**. The notification of return will appear on the school website, **so please check this daily** after 3pm in the News section - www.stursulas.com/news/coronavirus-update/.

Please note that it may be necessary to send other year groups home as the situation to COVID-19 changes over the coming weeks / months and parents will be notified of any changes as soon as possible via the school website.

Partially closing the school is not a decision I have taken lightly and I am truly sorry for any inconvenience this may cause to parents / carers.

If you have any concerns about you or your child's health, please contact your healthcare provider / call 111 and follow their advice. As much we are here to support you, we are not medically trained so you should follow the guidance / advice of a medical professional.

Thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

Catrina Hamilton

Catrina Hamilton
Headteacher





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Government Guidance COVID- 19 – Update 17th March 2020

New guidance for households with Symptoms

- If you live with others and you or another member of the household have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
- For anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.

The symptoms are:

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

The full stay at home guidance for households with these symptoms can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Stringent Social distancing measures to now be followed by

- Pregnant women
- People with health issues that place them at increased risk of severe illness

Social distancing guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-andfor-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protectingolder-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

All parents/carers are reminded that in order to keep our community safe everyone must act responsibly. Students who have been sent home from college and/or have been advised to self-isolate for 14 days should stay inside and follow social distancing guidelines set out by the government.

