

St George's Hanover Square CE School, South St, Mayfair, London W1K 2XH

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**Executive Headteacher:** Mrs Rebecca Harris **Head of School:** Ms Petra Slater

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

Dear Parents and Carers

As the country completes the fourth week of the lockdown, we would like to keep you up to date with what the school is doing to keep things going as best we can.

### **Learning from Home**

As you know the staff have been working hard behind the scenes creating the weekly Learning from Home pages which can be found on the front page of our school website.

From Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> April we will be making some further adjustments to our provision. The Government has worked with schools across the country to create a set of daily lessons in English, Maths and another foundation subject. This initiative is being called the Oak National Academy. The Government is recommending that schools use these carefully planned and sequenced lessons for children's learning from home. These lessons helpfully include videos with expert teachers. We hope that these lessons and videos are useful to you. We continue to adhere to the teaching Unions advice by not using our own teachers in any videos.

We are trialling the use of these daily lessons and have suggested a daily routine for children to follow. This can be found on the weekly Learning from Home pages on the school website. The daily learning routine outlined is only a suggestion to help provide structure. You will decide what works for you in your home. We realise that your family may need to share laptops or mobiles, so only plan to do what you can. Also, parents may be working, caring for sick family members or looking after little ones, so choosing activities is up to you. The activities guide you and your child to be able to learn together or for your child to learn on their own. Parents are not expected to be teachers and these daily lessons are designed to keep children busy and enjoying learning, while providing flexibility for parents to run their household as they see fit. We are not going to be checking up to see how much work has been done!

We continue to provide a range of suggested additional activities which children may like to have a go at in addition to the daily lessons. We are also including a section on Internet Safety each week, which you will appreciate, is very important at this time.

Our teachers will continue to communicate with their classes through writing a letter from time to time. One of next week's tasks for the children is to write a letter to their teacher. We look forward to hearing all their news!

It is pleasing to see some photos of your learning from home. We have all enjoyed seeing how creative and focused you have been. Please do continue to send in photos of what you have been doing at home and we will share these with class teachers. If you are happy for us to upload these onto our school website to celebrate your learning and give inspiration to others, please let us know in your email. We will be developing a Photo Page link in the main Learning from Home section of our website soon.

### **Other Online Learning resources**

**Julia Donaldson**, is doing a weekly reading of her books on the Pan Macmillan website, at 4.00pm every Thursday. There are also free Gruffalo colouring sheets/craft activities on the website (<https://www.panmacmillan.com/blogs/books-for-children/snail-and-the-whale-kids-activities>).

**Childcare update**

St George's staff have also been busy attending the childcare hubs as part of the cluster of neighbouring Westminster schools. Our grateful thanks to the staff for providing childcare for vulnerable children and children of key workers. We are very proud of you.

Thinking of you all and wishing you well.

**Let your light shine in the world as Jesus did, with compassion, thankfulness and hope.**

Best wishes

**Mrs Harris and Ms Slater**

# Advice for parents during coronavirus

Whilst coronavirus is infectious to children it is rarely serious. If your child is unwell it is likely to be a non-coronavirus illness, rather than coronavirus itself.

Whilst it is extremely important to follow Government advice to stay at home during this period, it can be confusing to know what to do when your child is unwell or injured. Remember that NHS 111, GPs and hospitals are still providing the same safe care that they have always done. Here is some advice to help:



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## If your child has any of the following:

- Becomes pale, mottled and feels abnormally cold to the touch
- Has pauses in their breathing (apnoeas), has an irregular breathing pattern or starts **grunting**
- Severe difficulty in breathing becoming agitated or unresponsive
- Is going blue round the lips
- Has a fit/seizure
- Becomes extremely distressed (crying inconsolably despite distraction), confused, very lethargic (difficult to wake) or unresponsive
- Develops a rash that does not disappear with pressure (the 'Glass test')
- Has testicular pain, especially in teenage boys

## You need urgent help:

Go to the nearest A&E department or phone 999



AMBER

## If your child has any of the following:

- Is finding it hard to breathe including drawing in of the muscles below their lower ribs, at their neck or between their ribs (**recession**) or **head bobbing**
- Seems dehydrated (dry mouth, sunken eyes, no tears, drowsy or passing less urine than usual)
- Is becoming drowsy (excessively sleepy) or irritable (unable to settle them with toys, TV, food or picking up) - especially if they remain drowsy or irritable despite their fever coming down
- Has extreme shivering or complains of muscle pain
- Babies under 3 months of age with a temperature above 38°C / 100.4°F
- Infants 3-6 months of age with a temperature above 39°C / 102.2°F
- For all infants and children with a fever above 38°C for more than 5 days.
- Is getting worse or if you are worried
- Has persistent vomiting and/or persistent severe abdominal pain
- Has blood in their poo or wee
- Any limb injury causing reduced movement, persistent pain or head injury causing persistent crying or drowsiness

## You need to contact a doctor or nurse today.

Please ring your GP surgery or call NHS 111 - dial 111

The NHS is working for you. However, we recognise during the current coronavirus crisis at peak times, access to a health care professional may be delayed. If symptoms persist for 4 hours or more and you have not been able to speak to either a GP or 111, then take your child to the nearest A&E



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## If none of the above features are present

- You can continue to provide your child care at home. Information is also available on NHS Choices
- Additional **advice** is available to families for coping with crying of well babies 
- Additional **advice** is available for children with complex health needs and disabilities.

## Self care

Continue providing your child's care at home. If you are still concerned about your child, call NHS 111 - dial 111