

Dear Parents,

Please see the following information received today from Cumbria

Public Health • Cumbria House • 110-117 • Botchergate • Carlisle • Cumbria • CA1 1RD

Dear Headteacher,

ADVICE TO SCHOOLS RE COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Cases of coronavirus are predicted to increase. This means that the likelihood of your school having a pupil or member of staff either test positive, or being in contact with a confirmed case and advised to self isolate, is increasing.

Currently if there is a confirmed case at your school you will be contacted by Public Health England who will advise on the appropriate and proportionate steps to take. This will vary on a cases by case basis, but may have operational implications for the school.

If you have a pupil or staff member who is self-isolating due to contact with a confirmed case then the current national advice is that schools should remain open and business continue as usual.

Ultimately, it is at your discretion how your school responds.

In the event of a case being reported at St Columba's School we would take the decision to close the school to clean the building thoroughly. This may seem extreme but as mentioned in previous letters we need to protect the vulnerable.

Advice is changing quickly as more and cases are being reported.

I will keep you updated as I find out further information

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs C M O'Donnell