



FATIMA ELIZABETH

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Coronavirus Temporary Closure of FEP:

Fatima Elizabeth Phrontistery decision to **temporarily Close Down** and **temporarily** move into the online world.

السلام عليكم

Dear Parents,

Our beloved Prophet (saw) said,

إذا سمعتم بالطاعون بأرض فلا تدخلوها وإذا وقع بأرض وأنتم بها فلا تخرجوا منها

If you hear that a land has been stricken by plague, do not approach it, and if your land is stricken by plague, do not leave it".¹

لَا يُؤْرَدُ مُمَرِّضٌ عَلَى مُصِحٍّ

"...A sick person should not be taken to one who is healthy..."²

This is a notice letter to inform you that we have arrived at a decision to close Fatima Elizabeth Phrontistery temporarily because of the recent coronavirus outbreak pending a significant rejection from you the parent of FEP. For us this hasn't been an easy decision to make or to accept but we feel this is a necessary step to take. Our rationale for closing FEP should be seen as a calculated, long-term contingency plan to help avoid its spreading. The following points should be borne in mind:

- 1) It has recently been declared that Coronavirus is a pandemic with Europe being its epicentre.³
- 2) Given the proximity with Europe (and a host of other reasons), UK is currently ranked as the **14th country** with highest number of infections per country (with a **current tally of 1370**;⁴ with **35 deaths thus far** (15.03.2020).⁵ For updated date see [here](#).⁶
- 3) London currently - as of 13th March 2020 - has the highest concentration of people infected with a total of **135 people in the UK** – compounding this with the acknowledgement that London is the most populated city in UK, this makes people living in London have a higher potential to getting exposed to the virus

¹ Sahîh al-Bukhârî 80,6

² Sahîh Muslim Hadith 2221

³ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-51876784>

⁴ <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

⁵ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51889957>

⁶ <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

- 4) Even if you catch the virus, the symptoms don't necessarily show until **2-14 days later** which means that you may not be aware you have it and simultaneously be spreading it.⁷ In our context this could particularly affect the health conditions of grandparents who care for the children or are in regular contact with them as the elderly with comorbidities are at risk.
- 5) While the science is still unclear, **the virus can last for up to several days** while on uncleaned surfaces.⁸

We realise that some of you may express concerns and worries with FEP taking this stance. Most importantly, some parents have raised the issue of schools being open which makes closing FEP redundant. In response to concerns, we would like to express the following:

- 1) The government's decision to not close school down is based on a cost-benefit analysis which not only includes helping the citizens of UK but also potential loss in the country's economy whereas our decision is primarily based on the well-being of the citizens of Walthamstow (and neighbouring areas)
- 2) Even if schools remain open, FEP is another avenue where a concentration of people increases the **likelihood** of getting and spreading the virus which is why we have decided to close FEP until further notice (as the saying goes: "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"). Currently there is no cure or specific treatment available, thus social distancing is one of the recommendations suggested to limit the spread of Coronavirus.
- 3) We also want to point out that **some** mosques in the country are shutting down (or are considering to shut down to stop congregational prayers, *madrasah* classes as well as Friday sermons to help avoid creating potential avenues through which the virus can spread.⁹

Please realise that we do not take this decision lightly. Only after much deliberation and counsel have we come to this conclusion. Not only is the coronavirus a threat but it also has potentially long-term consequences for recovered/recovering patients. Current science indicates that it has the **potential impact to reduce lung function after recovery**.¹⁰ Furthermore, and while the science is still unclear on this, but there has been report of **people getting re-infected**.¹¹ Given the compounding complexities associated with this virus, we hope that you welcome our decision positively so that we can collectively keep our children, families, and especially our elderly and those of us ill and the community at large safe.

However, we now put this to parents at FEP and pending a significant response may overturn our decision to temporarily close down. For this we require parents to respond and give us their suggestions and opinions both about the closure from now and the temporary move to online if we are in agreement to the former.

Please see next page for online details and the online form to give us your feedback. We will regularly be updating parents in regards to fees structure and the way forward.

⁷ <https://newsroom.clevelandclinic.org/2020/03/13/frequently-asked-questions-about-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/>

⁸ <https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

⁹ <https://mcb.org.uk/mcb-updates/coronavirus-guidance-for-mosques-and-madrassas/>

¹⁰ <https://www.sciencealert.com/even-those-who-recover-from-corona-can-be-left-gasping-for-breath-afterwards>

¹¹ <https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/484942-japan-confirms-first-case-of-person-reinfected>

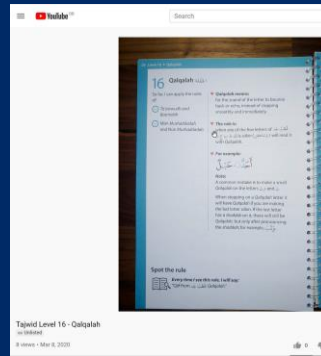
The Plan Ahead and the temporary move to our 'Online Platforms'

Over the next few days, we will be updating and informing our parents on how the temporary transition will take place. For now, to give you an idea that we are looking into interactive online classes at approximately the same timing of students' classes on the weekends. For **Islamic Studies**, we're looking at 45 mins session followed by independent learning and interactive **Qaidah & Tajwid lessons** in small groups with staff.

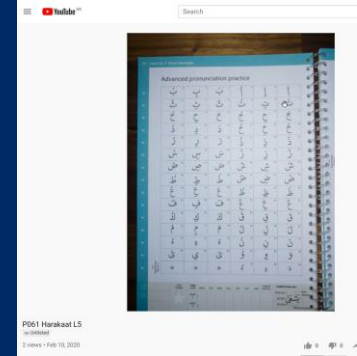
We have also completed our 'Online Qaidah & Tajwid Tutorials' see links below, Click on each sample page and video to get an idea:



Online
Tajwid
Tutorials



Tajwid Book
Level 16
'Qalqalah'



Qaidah
Harakaat Level 5
Page 61

For memorisation we will be using this time as we do annually for our month of revision of duas and also focusing on learning duas of protection and implementing them.

For Further details on above and to give us feedback or to share advice please click the button below.

WE HOPE TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM AS MANY PARENTS AS POSSIBLE

**FEP Parents'
Covid-19 Feedback Form**

Warmest regards,

Ustadh Hamid Mahmood

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