



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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18th March 2020

Dear Parents,

You may have heard the announcement that all schools will be closing at the end of the school day on Friday.

I am sure that this will prove a challenge for many of you, but needs must in exceptional times! In line with government guidance, we are exploring the possibility of providing some childcare to support parents who are considered **key workers**. Although we do not yet have a definitive list, we believe that this will be NHS workers, police officers and delivery drivers for supermarkets.

We will try to help where we can – but obviously we need to explore the logistics of providing adequate cover when many staff will need to be at home themselves. We also want to keep the number of children in school to an absolute minimum, to reduce any risk of infection as much as we can. Wherever it is possible, the best option for our whole community is for your child to stay at home.

It would be really helpful if you could let us know **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** if you consider yourself to be a key worker and **have no other safe option** than to send your child to school. If you can let us know by lunchtime tomorrow (Thursday 19th March), that would be a great help.

Please just email us with your name, your job, the names of any of your children at school (and classes or year groups). Please state if your partner is also a key worker.

We will be able to draw up a firmer plan once the government issues clarification on what constitutes a key worker, but we want to get the ball rolling as soon as possible. Obviously, we do not yet know what the package we can offer will look like, and we will only accept children whose parents can prove that they are working in a key role (according to the government directive).

If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you have adequate childcare.

With best wishes

Elizabeth Rippon