



St Joseph's

Catholic Primary School

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1st January 2021

Dear parents/carers

Delayed re-opening of St Joseph's Primary – move to remote learning

This evening, the government announced that all primary schools in Greenwich will not reopen as previously planned on Monday 4 January 2021 because of the high rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). The government has indicated that these local measures will be kept under review and will be reviewed again by Monday 18 January 2021, so we should assume that schools will be closed for at least the next two weeks.

It is important that the majority of children stay at home for these next two weeks in order to help reduce the spread of the virus in our local community.

The school will be closed to all children on Monday 4th January, when an inset day will be held to allow staff time to prepare remote learning and packs that can be collected, for children to begin home learning on Tuesday 5th January.

During our closure to children, your children's teachers will provide remote learning using Google Classroom and home learning packs - all children are expected to engage fully with this while school is closed. Further details of this offer will be shared on Monday 4th January.

We will work with families who require support with accessing the internet at home and those who do not have access to a suitable device for home learning.

The children of critical workers and those defined as vulnerable can attend school from Tuesday 5th January. The definitions of vulnerable children and critical workers, as set out by the government, can be found at the end of this letter.

Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home and every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. Critical worker parents or carers should notify the school that their child or children will require full-time on-site provision by **[completing the attached form](#)** and please returning it by 9am on Monday 4th January 2021.

We know you will have many questions and we will communicate with you once we have more information. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to email questions to support@stjosephs.greenwich.sch.uk and we will endeavour to answer as many of your queries as we can in our next letter to you.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Lisa Lazell
Executive Headteacher



Mrs Jacki Keogh
Head of School

Children classed as vulnerable

We are committed to supporting our most vulnerable children at this challenging time.

The government has announced that provision will still be available for:

- Children with an Education Health Care Plan and
- Children with an allocated social worker

Critical Worker List

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- Childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers

- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in
- government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors