

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents

Urgent Coronavirus Update – School Closure from Friday 20th March 3:30pm

Once again, we thank you for your continued support during this unsettled time. The words of thanks and best wishes from parents have meant a lot to all of us. It truly reminds us what a special and unique community we have at St. Margaret Clitherow School. Once this uncertain time has passed, our school community will unite again and be the strong force it will always be.

As advised by the Government yesterday, **we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers, children with Educational Health Care Plans or children linked to a social worker.** **Please be reminded that any child that can be at home, should be at home. We are still waiting for clarity from the Government by what they mean by key workers.**

We have just received the following list from Hertfordshire County Council, **however, this could change based on information we expect to receive from the Government.** This is the best we can share at the moment. We are sorry things are not clearer but we are as much in the dark as you are! **At this point we are not aware if both parents need to be key workers or just one.**

Do you work in front line roles e.g.

- NHS staff
- Education staff (Teacher / support staff)
- Delivery Driver
- Social care
- Other

As a school, we now have a very tight time schedule to put preparations in place for this provision and to ensure that it is adequately and safely staffed. **At this stage, we need to clarify numbers of families who meet these criteria and do not otherwise have access to childcare.** If parents are key workers or you are a key worker and a single parent and wish to use our school's provision, you will need to notify us as soon as possible, so that we can ensure adequate provision is in place from Monday. **Once we know the detail from the Government, if it's one parent or both, we will be in touch again. Please do not assume that completing the form below entitles you to a school place from Monday.** Again, we apologise but we have not been provided this detail even at this time of night!

The aim of the Government's strategy is to reduce the number of children in school whilst ensuring that essential workers are available to work as required. **As such, even if you are a key worker, if you do not need this provision, because you already have suitable childcare in place, we urge you to keep your original plans.** The provision being offered cannot be opened to others who may also need to work and we appreciate that this will cause difficulty for many of you.



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

If you meet the above criteria and wish to access the school's provision, please complete the form below and return it to school by Friday at 12pm. If you are able to complete the form at home, please do so and email it to admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk We will have paper copies available at the school office tomorrow morning for you to complete if necessary. If you are currently self-isolating please contact the school office by Friday at 12pm and notify us that you will need a school place – you will still need to complete a form. If you need to speak to me about eligibility, I will be available tomorrow morning from 8:00am.

Please note that absence of staff due to self-isolating could lead to either a partial or full closure of the school if not enough staff are available to ensure the safe operation of the school day.

Can I please remind you that if a child or a parent is self-isolating due to coronavirus-like symptoms (persistent new cough OR high temperature – 37.8 degrees plus) the isolation period for the WHOLE HOUSEHOLD (not just the individual displaying the symptoms) is now 14 DAYS from the onset of symptoms. These guidelines are still in place.

At this stage, we need to consider what the provision will look like and how we will be able to cater for a wide range of ages together in a suitable way for those still accessing our school. It is clear that this will look very different to a normal school day, using a different structure and routine. Teaching and learning will be very different to cater for the broader age range, abilities and the interests of the children and will be dependent upon the experience of the staff available.

Sadly, all our other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March onwards. At this point, we do not know the time frame for this closure. We will of course update you once we have been told.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. Please find resources and ideas for home learning on our main website, click on Curriculum, Our Learning and then the specific class page for your child. We will continue to update these pages over the coming weeks. Our twitter feed @StMClitherow will also show home learning tasks and it is visible on the front page of our website, you do not need to subscribe to twitter to see it.

We will continue to contact you via parentmail and our admin@clitherow.herts.sch.uk will continue to be monitored during this closure. If you have any questions, please do get in touch. If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has announced.

We want to do all we can to support the work of other key worker services at this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

We will continue to update you daily as we are given further advice. Please keep our School Community in your prayers.

God Bless



Carmela Puccio
Headteacher



Sally Curtis
Chair of Governors



Vulnerable Children and Children of Keyworkers

Request for accessing school provision at St. Margaret Clitherow School from Monday 23rd March 2020.

I would like to request that my child(ren) attend(s) school during the time that schools are closed

Child's name	Class

I need to access this provision because (please tick):

- Parents/carers are categorised as key workers by the Government's definition
- I am a key worker (by the Government's definition) and a single parent
- My child is currently supported by an EHCP and I would like them to attend
- My child is currently linked to a named Social Worker

I understand that this provision is for the regular school day and that I will need to make appropriate arrangements for drop-off and collection

Details of key worker(s)

First Parent/Carer's Name:

Key worker's Job Title:

Name of Employer:

Work Telephone Number:

Line Manager's Name & Job Title:

Second Parent/Carer's Name:

Key worker's Job Title:

Name of Employer:

Work Telephone Number:

Line Manager's Name & Job Title:

