



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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We Grow and Learn with Jesus

Headteacher: Mrs. P.M. Wilson M.A.

20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that by Monday, work for the children remaining at home will be available on our school website.

We are overwhelmed with requests from parents to stay open for their children. Fortunately nearly all our staff are happy and willing to do this. Therefore, we will try to stay open as long as we can, including during the Easter holidays.

However, due to the demand for places we have had to prioritise children according to the government's definition of 'key worker'. That is:

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 nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the 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, and 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 COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's 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).

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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 COVID-19 pandemic), 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 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 COVID-19 response, as well as 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 and waste disposal sectors.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

Children who have been given a place will receive a letter today, all others have been ranked on a list and will be contacted as soon as a space arises.

I cannot stress enough that children who do attend will be vulnerable to an increased risk of infection. If you are able to have your child looked after at home the risk for your family and vulnerable members of wider society will be greatly reduced. Schools are remaining open **only** for those who absolutely need to attend. Please do **not** abuse this privilege.

Children attending school will need to wear their school uniform and bring a packed lunch and raw fruit or vegetable snack. School fruit deliveries have been suspended. All children must bring a water bottle.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing staff. They have worked so hard this week to allow us to keep our school open.

Our whole community is in our thoughts and prayers. We very much look forward to the time when our school can be reunited and return to normal.

God bless.

P.M. Wilson