



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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 Interim Executive Headteacher: Mr. N Hart

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear parents / carers

My name is Nick Hart and I am the Interim Executive Headteacher at St Mary's. It is a challenge that St Mary's is experiencing a change in leadership during a national crisis and my first action is to announce that **we will only be opening on Tuesday 5th January for the following:**

- **the children of key workers**
- **children with an EHCP**
- **children with social workers**

For all other children, **there will be remote learning provision via Teams** (details below). The reason for deciding this course of action is to prioritise the safety of the staff, children and the community. The COVID-19 pandemic is worsening and with a new strain that is more virulent, we are unable to keep everyone safe. We know that there is anxiety about the return to school in the community and we also understand the challenges that remote learning presents. It is difficult to say for how long we will be working in this way but we're considering advice from the DfE, the local authority and education unions to look at ways of amending our risk assessment and practices. I will keep you updated regularly on this.

What do I do if my child is eligible for a place at school?

We would encourage parents to keep their children at home where possible. If your child is eligible and you need a school place, please let us know by completing the Questionnaire Form that has been sent separately to you via Parentmail. You can access this by logging into Parentmail account and looking under the tab that says Forms. You will need to complete the form and submit this. The form has only been sent ONE Primary Contact.

How will my child know what work to do while working at home?

Your child's teacher will post information on Teams first thing in the morning. Mrs Wakeman, (the Deputy Headteacher) will confirm today what you can expect from teachers and what we expect from children.

What if my child cannot access work on Teams?

If you don't have an appropriate device or internet access, please let us know, on the questionnaire Form that we have sent out, we will provide either a device (if one is available) or a printed pack.

My child is eligible for free school meals and will be working at home. Will they still receive the meals?

Yes. The school office will be in contact with you as soon as possible to make arrangements for collection.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Nick Hart
Interim Executive Headteacher