

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School



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30th December 2020

RE: School opening in January 2021

Dear Parents

Sadly the spread of the new variation of COVID19 has led the Government to announce restrictions on the opening of schools. As a school in Hounslow we are included in the list of schools who will not be opening fully in January. As you will appreciate these are fast moving times.

From 4th January we will be open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers – this will be the case for at least two weeks until Monday 18th January.

All other children should stay at home and complete the Learning at Home: www.bit.ly/SMIHLarchive.

This move comes as a shock to all of us particularly as we've all heard the hopeful news around the two vaccines which are now available. Let's hope and pray that these get rolled out to everyone very soon.

Learning at Home resources from 4th January will start with "First do this" and then, depending on our capacity, build to include "Now do this" – the Oak National Academy links. This is because we do not yet know how many vulnerable children and children of Critical Workers (used to be Key workers) will be returning to us on Monday 4th so please be understanding.

On Monday 4th your child should only come to school if you are a Critical Worker or if your child is Vulnerable as laid out in the list below. **You must also complete the Google form via the link at the end of this letter**

With Christ in our hearts we grow in love to help others.

– you will not receive confirmation of a place as we will not have time to send them out – bit if you fit the criteria your child will have a place.

Please keep to the staggered drop off and pick up times which we've be running since September.

Start times

8.25 Year 1 (Back double gates)

8.25 Year 2 (Front double gates)

8.35 Year 3 (Back double gates)

8.35 Year 4 (Front double gates)

8.45 Nursery (Back double gates)

8.45 Year 5 (Front double gates)

8.55 Reception (Back double gates)

8.55 Year 6 (Front classroom doors)

Pick up times

2.35 Year 1 (Back double gates)

2:35 Year 2 (Front double gates)

2.45 Year 3 (Back double gates)

2.45 Year 4 (Front double gates)

11:45 Nursery (Back double gates)

2.55 Year 5 (Front double gates)

3.05 Reception (Back double gates)

3.05 Year 6 (Front classroom doors)

If you think that your child fits into either of these two groups (Vulnerable or Critical worker) please read the information below carefully and then complete the form from the link at the end.

Vulnerable children and young people

Vulnerable children include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a **child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child**
- have an **education, health and care (EHC) plan**
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's **social care services**), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance

Critical worker children

Children of 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.

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Health and social care

This includes:

- 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

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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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- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

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- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
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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 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

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Here's the link to the Google Form for Vulnerable and Critical Worker school places:

<https://forms.gle/yVZTqDafFUYNKuAf8>

Thank you for your continued support – let's hope for a brighter 2021.

St Joseph! Pray for Us! St Mary! Pray for Us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F Marsh'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M'.

F Marsh

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