



EEF

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

The Catholic Diocese of Lancaster



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School Closure due to Coronavirus Pandemic

As you will be aware, our Prime Minister announced yesterday evening that all schools in England are to close as from Friday 20 March 2020. The Government has asked schools to ***"provide childcare for key workers (that is those whose role is critical to COVID19) and vulnerable children as part of the country's ongoing response to the Coronavirus"*** but it clearly states that ***"if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be."***

If there is only 1 Key Worker in the house and you have the possibility to keep your children at home with a non-Key Worker, we would ask you to do so.

We are now collecting information as to who these key workers are who have **no other option** than to use school over the coming weeks in order that they can continue to support our community during these times.

We are preparing for a national emergency situation and we expect parents only to use this facility when there is no alternative child care.

So, moving forwards:

- There will be no educational learning planned for the children – it will be **purely childcare**.
- We will be flexible on days and time depending on Key Worker rotas and duties within our new opening hours of Mon-Fri, 8:30am-3:30pm.
- **Parents must bring their children to the door and hand them over** – please do not send



children on their own, no matter their age.

- **Parents must sign the register** on collection of their children
- Children do not need to be in uniform.
- Children will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks with them.
- Staffing will be from a range of roles within school but all staff hold DBS checks.

Please email me directly at head@st-patricks-pri.lancs.sch.uk if your role fits in with the **key workers whose role is critical to COVID19** advice from central Government **AND** if you have **no other** options for childcare available to you.

Please state:

- Your name
- Your Key Worker role
- Your working hours or rota pattern
- Your children's names and their classes
- Your telephone number – this **must** be one that can be answered during the day
- Your email address for updates on what we can provide

Children who are entitled to a Free School Meal (not the Infant free school meal system but parents for whom the school receives Pupil Premium Grant) will be able to come into school between 12-1pm to collect a food pack provided by Lancashire County Council. Parents/Carers of Pupil Premium eligible pupils will be provided with a meal pack for their child which will provide a basic breakfast and lunch for 5 days. Access will be through the Main Entrance.

Children who have an EHCP can request support from school but please do bear in mind that some of these children will not be able to deal with the changes occurring within school and the different age ranges we are going to care for. I would strongly recommend that if they do not have to be in then they would be better not being in for their own emotional and health needs.

I have attached a definition of Key Workers but would stress again – **this is only if you have no other alternative please.**

Our provision will be reviewed regularly and may have to change due to Government advice, staff's own circumstances at home, staff illness. Please bear with us but we will keep you all informed.

Please remember, if your child is staying at home then they should be 'Social Distancing' which means they keep distant from other people including their friends and other families. They should not be out and about in the community.





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Please also note that children not attending Childcare **must not** on the school premises at any time.

Can I take this moment to thank all of my staff team for their amazing work in keeping going so far and putting together this offer and also our parents who are displaying some much needed sense and support at this time.

RESPONSE FORM CAN BE COPIED AND SENT TO ME – head@st-patricks-pri.lancs.sch.uk

Your name:	
Your Key Worker role:	
Your children's names and their classes:	
Your telephone number which must be available all day:	
Your email address for updates:	

Please read the following statement from the Government before completing this form.

Please follow these key principles:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then childcare provision will be available for them.**
- 3. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.**

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision:

Health and social care

This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers and other frontline health and social care staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of a supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes nursery staff and teachers, 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, 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 arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production and distribution/delivery of food 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 COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees, 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, the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors, information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies required 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.

Thank you all once again for your support of our school.

Mrs C E Hind



