

# St. Chad's Catholic Primary School



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Headteacher: Ms Delia Jameson

Hard copies of the Safeguarding Policy are available from the school office.

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Guidance for schools remaining open from Monday was posted in the early hours this morning (see link below). The guidance is clear, **“If children can stay safely at home, they should.”**

My view as your Headteacher, based on the guidance, is that all parents should endeavour to keep their children at home if at all feasibly possible. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread across the local community and in school. Outside of school, parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way that can continue to spread the virus.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in the critical sectors, our school staff will make every effort to provide childcare whilst you are at work.

We are also trying to open a little earlier to enable you to keep the country operating. **ONLY FOR THOSE WHO REALLY NEED IT.**

I will let you know whether we will be able to allocate your child a place once we have looked at the forms that have been sent in. I have already seen forms that are stretching the limits of what might be deemed a keyworker, please be reasonable and let us provide this service for as long as possible for those who are on the frontline.

Furthermore, we will take all practical steps to keep our vulnerable children safe and we will endeavour to provide the very best care for your children.

**In summary, the scientific guidance is clear the fewer children we have in school each day the greater chance we have of limiting the chance of the virus spreading. The more children we have in school, the less likely we will be able to stay open for the entire duration of this crisis.**

These are testing times and is our civic and moral duty to keep our community safe, whilst at the same time keeping our critical services operating.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision?fbclid=IwAR0bw2mh1vPBfncuKKMfNm0eexgk0q65mvG-esGQBavtsVAe\\_bcImlBIF9A](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision?fbclid=IwAR0bw2mh1vPBfncuKKMfNm0eexgk0q65mvG-esGQBavtsVAe_bcImlBIF9A)

Yours sincerely,

Delia Jameson  
Headteacher

Grow in Love Live in Peace



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