



19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – school closure

I am writing to inform you that following the government announcement yesterday, this school will close tomorrow, Friday 20th March at 3.00 pm for the Infant School and 3.15 pm for the junior school. The school will be closed for the foreseeable future and no date has been given for re-opening at the moment.

Provision for children of essential workers

This is a very serious pandemic and it is clear that social distancing is important in fighting the virus. Therefore, for your children, the safest place for them to be will be in their own home.

If however all those with parental responsibility, fall into the government category of key workers, you may decide to send your child to school if there is nobody to care for them at home. Please check the Government list carefully, if your job is listed as a key worker's job, contact the office if you intend to bring your child to school on Monday or email

Mrs Fernandes on: head@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk

If you fall into the category and you need to bring your child to school, please let us know immediately so that plans can be made.

Evidence of your key worker status as per the Government list will be required (e.g. ID badge, an email to the head teacher from your work email address)

The school can accommodate children in receipt of an education, health and care plan if there is no available care for them at home. We would stress however, that government advice on distancing suggests that children are safest at home. If you or anyone in your family has symptoms you will need to self-isolate and therefore your child cannot attend school.

This is an unprecedented situation in education in the UK. In light of this, we urge all parents to act with the utmost responsibility when making decisions regarding childcare. To be clear: the school cannot provide childcare unless it is clear that the principle carers are employed as key workers in the current crisis.

Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time. We have postponed the Year 4 trip to Hindleap to November 2020. Unfortunately, the year 6 trip has to be cancelled and parents will be refunded money paid.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fernandes
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs L Fernandes

The Federation of St. Joseph's Catholic Junior, Infant and Nursery Schools

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