

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **DELAYED OPENING OF THE SCHOOL**

Many of you will have heard yesterday's Government announcement that some London primary schools will not be open to the majority of pupils but will be delivering remote learning. This will be from the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. It is believed that the closure may last until the 17<sup>th</sup> January, but the date will be reviewed. This applies to all schools in Croydon and will include the Federation of St Joseph's Junior, Infant and Nursery Schools. **However, schools will remain open to critical worker children and other identified groups.**

**St Joseph's will offer face to face sessions in school, ONLY to the following pupils who have:**

Parents/carers who are critical workers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

An EHCP (educational health care plan)

Additional support for varying reasons and are considered to be vulnerable

If you are a critical worker, it is vital that you complete a google form using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/dcPsdSqJKMWNkqEx9>

Kindly return it **as soon as possible** and **no later than Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021**. This will inform us of numbers attending and enable us to plan for Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Critical workers and parents of other groups attending will then receive a letter of confirmation with further details.

If your child attends school, hot lunches will be available and free to pupils in receipt of free school meals. If you are not FSM, kindly continue to pay via Parent Pay.

Children will be expected to wear full school uniform and all other procedures will continue as normal. Starting and finishing times will be confirmed prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Please do not send your child in unless you receive a letter of confirmation.

### **Remote Learning**

Class teachers will deliver teaching sessions via zoom/Google Meet followed by focused group sessions. Activities will be set via Google classrooms, on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> January and zoom sessions will start from Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Information will be shared with you as soon as possible together with the daily links.

Please make sure that your child has access to the internet at home. **If you do not have internet access, please email Vicki Gallagher, Deputy Head immediately so that alternative learning can be prepared for your child.** Her email is: [deputyhead@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:deputyhead@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk)

If you have any issues regarding accessing remote learning, please email using the following email address: [ict@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:ict@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk)



### **Communication with the school**

Please check your emails and texts for regular updates and refer to our school website for current information: <http://www.stjosephsfederation.co.uk>

You can contact the school office on 020 8653 7195 or 0208 670 2385

### **What to do now**

- Check that you have internet access at home and write to the school if you do not.
- Make sure maintain regular contact with the school by using one of the methods listed above.
- Keep up to date with government advice by watching the news or checking the official gov.uk website.

I appreciate this is a difficult time and children will be upset not to return to school as previously planned. We are here to support you so please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office or email me on: [head@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please be assured that we will continue to drive remote learning to make up for time lost whilst children are not at school. Sessions will be more interactive and teachers will be able to give instant feedback. Activities will include use of interactive websites to drive key maths and English skills. It is vital that you continue reading with your child and support them with their learning.

Teachers will keep a daily register of attendance and staff will contact you if your child has missed sessions. Children working in school will have equal access to learning and will participate in group sessions with children working at home.

It is not the best way to begin a new term, but we need to ensure everyone's safety and follow all guidelines. We need to look to the future and to the time we are COVID free and in the meantime work closely together.

Please do check your emails and I will keep you regularly informed of all updates.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely



Mrs Leonore Fernandes  
Headteacher

