



ST JAMES
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Principal: Lisa Belfield
Executive Principal: Jill Pilling

St James C.E Primary School
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Tuesday 5th January 2021

CRITICAL WORKER AND VULNERABLE INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are all aware our school will close to all pupils today until perhaps the middle of February. As a school family we are incredibly upset about this but we fully support and understand the government's decision in regards to school closures. The government's most recent scientific advice on how to limit the further spread of COVID-19 is clear & if children can stay safely at home, they should.

From Wednesday 6th January, school will be offering a reduced provision for some of our pupils. These pupils include:

- Pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan;
- Pupils who have involvement with a social worker;
- Pupils who have a parent who is classed as a critical worker.

The Prime Minister last night stressed that it is safer for us all to be at home at this moment in time. The provision we are offering is for children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to COVID-19 response and cannot be cared for safely at home. The measures put in place for school closures are there for the safety of the community.

We now need to establish exactly who these pupils are so that we can now organise new classes and organise the staff to support the pupils who will be on site.

If you feel your child is a 'critical worker' child then please complete the questionnaire that will be sent out to you shortly. Please understand that if you work shifts, the expectation is that your child will be at home when you are. We need to minimise contacts in school in order to reduce the transmission of covid-19. The definition of critical worker can be found on the guidance below:

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

School staff will contact directly those parents whose children will be classed as vulnerable & so please await a telephone call or a text message from school today.



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We will only be allowed a set number of pupils on site as we are awaiting further information from the government today on what this might be. We will contact you again if we are able to allocate your child a place. We will also send out the details on what school will look like for the next few weeks e.g. classes and start/finish times today.

Thank you so much for your support and understanding during this difficult time for all of us.

Our very best wishes,

*Mrs L Belfield
Principal*