



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
Coombeshead Road  
Newton Abbot  
TQ12 1PT  
Tel: 01626 352559  
Email: admin@sjna.uk

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Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

**Re: School opening for Key Workers children.**

This afternoon the school closes indefinitely for most children. In line with Government guidelines it will remain open for vulnerable children and the children of Key Workers. If it is possible for Key Workers to keep their children at home, they should do so. It is essential that only those children who qualify as vulnerable children or those of key workers with no other childcare options are in schools. Parents/ carers have a social responsibility to be honest, and work closely with us to follow government instructions carefully, minimise social contact and not put others at risk.

No child or member of staff should attend school if they are showing Coronavirus Symptoms or are sharing a house with someone who is showing symptoms/self-isolating. Please follow government guidelines on self-isolation -i.e. symptom free for at least 14 days. Please be aware that if children are brought to a school displaying symptoms, they will be isolated and sent home immediately and will not be allowed back to school for 14 days.

Thank you for confirming whether your child needs access to child-care during the next couple of weeks. Depending on staff sickness and absence, I am confident that we can provide this for your child during term time enabling you to be effective in the delivery of the government's response to COVID-19.

As next week is about childcare rather than education, our week will look slightly different, but I can confirm that it is still possible to book your children into the After School Club and Breakfast Club at the normal times.

**Arrangements for childcare during Easter Holiday:**

I am not yet clear if, or what, childcare we can provide during the Easter holidays, and will continue to make arrangements for this during the early part of next week. To help me in this task please complete the attached form and send it in with your child on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

### **Arrangements for term-time only, from 23<sup>rd</sup> March:**

- The playground gate will remain locked. Children should use the pedestrian entrance, next to the car park, to access school through the main reception area. We will complete our register as they enter.
- Children do not need to wear school uniform. Children will be doing a range of activities and should come prepared to be active and get dirty. They can leave welly boots/ outdoor clothes in school for the week if it helps.
- School lunches can be booked as normal.
- There will be no school crossing patrol until further notice and the crossing point on Coombeshead Road will be unmanned.

The school office will not be manned throughout the day after today, as we currently do not have any office staff in work. We will ensure that the office telephone is manned between 8.30 – 9.30 am and 2.30 – 3.30pm but please email [admin@sjna.uk](mailto:admin@sjna.uk) or Class Dojo, as we will check both of these forms of communication regularly.

Parents do not have to take up this provision, but unless you have told us otherwise we will expect your child in school for 9am until 3.30pm during term-time and we will contact you as normal if you have not let us know why they are not in school.

I respectfully remind you that parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions. Parents should 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.

This is a rapidly changing situation due to increasing amounts of staff absence, and changes to the national management of the crisis. We cannot therefore guarantee how long the school will be able to remain open, but we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible of a school closure, and work with the Local Authority to identify alternative provision where possible.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely

Kelly Dunne

Headteacher

## Parent Key Worker – Easter Holidays

In order to plan for partial opening of St Joseph's School or locating suitable child care in the area we request that Key Workers seeking child care over the **Easter holiday** complete this form.

Name of Parent/Carer \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of children at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and their classes

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Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of work \_\_\_\_\_

Name of line manager \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's email contact \_\_\_\_\_

Do you work full time or part time? \_\_\_\_\_

If part-time, please give details of days and hours:

Any other information we may need to know:

Signed: