



4/1/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to you all and thank you for all of your efforts in getting your little ones back into school today - I am so proud of my staff, at all levels, for continuing to come into work to open the school for your children today, such is their commitment to our school community.

As you may have heard in Boris Johnson's speech tonight at 8pm, all schools in England are to go into lockdown from tomorrow until after February half term, and we are asked to partially open to vulnerable children and children of key/critical workers.

From tomorrow, all learning will start to be delivered via the Google classroom platform. Each child has a login for this and some are already familiar with this through their home learning activities. From next week, live lessons will be time tabled for each class so that there is no clash between siblings in receiving their live teaching input. As with anything new, there may be some teething problems but we will address this together and try our best to resolve the issues. Please ensure that you know where your child's passwords are for Google classroom, IXL, Reading eggs, Espresso & Timetables Rockstars. If you are unsure, then email your child's teacher for another copy (emails below). Please note that for **Reception class, Mrs Hall** will continue to communicate with parents via the school website class page and via Tapestry.

As a reminder, teacher emails are:

Mrs Hall- Reception/Maple class: s.hal@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Reader -Year 1/ Elm class: s.reader@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Mr Pickavance -Year 2/Sycamore class: a.pickavance@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Miss England -Year 3/ Beech class: e.England@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Dale -Year 4/ Oak class: g.dale@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Mrs Henderson - Year 5/ Willow class: a.henderson@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

Miss Cheeseman - Year 6/Rowan class: k.cheeseman@stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk

CRITICAL WORKERS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN ELIGIBILITY

As schools need to provide places for the vulnerable, critical worker's children and our teachers will also be required to teach remotely, we would ask all critical worker families for your support by considering carefully if your child/ children will need a place on some days rather than everyday as this will help us manage the demand and workload of staff. If there is someone at home who can supervise your child, then they should stay at home on those days. As a reminder, here is a list of those classed as vulnerable or critical workers:

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan

- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
 - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
 - those living in temporary accommodation
 - those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health.

Critical workers include:

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and National Government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and

food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public Safety and National Security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport and Border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

Your child would be offered a place if you are a critical worker, **and there is no-one else in your household who can supervise them at home.**

If you believe your child is eligible for a place at school during the lockdown period, please click on the link below and complete the attached online short form by tomorrow TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 12 PM. (One form for each child please)

Only complete if you require the place and your child is eligible. In this way, we can work out 'actual' numbers of children and numbers of staff needed to supervise their remote learning activities.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XifLgQOFR0igSVKKwghyRhsLZSkt--xAqa4IKmyPBXNUREIESTUzTkVZNINHUDFZMjNGNjIPSTJGQS4u>

I will write to you again to update you on future arrangements for school places and remote learning.

With thanks and best wishes. Please keep safe,

Mrs Christopher