

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent and Carer,

### **Coronavirus Arrangements Update**

I would like to keep you updated on arrangements at St Saviour's and ask that you please take note of the following information. Thank you for your continuing support at this challenging time.

Yesterday, I let you know that we may have to close specific classes should we not have enough staff to keep 100% of the school open on any given day. Further to that, today I would like to inform you that should we close a class or possibly a whole yeargroup for the day or longer, we would still allow any parents in that particular yeargroup to bring in their children if they are what is commonly known as a 'Key Worker' employed in the public sector. These children of 'Key Workers' would be in a single group/class with a dedicated classteacher for the day.

#### ***The definition of a Key Worker we are using:***

- clinical staff employed by the NHS (excluding doctors and dentists)
- teachers, including further education teachers and Early Years/nursery teachers
- police officers and community support officers in specified forces
- frontline police staff (civilians) may also be eligible in some areas
- prison officers and some Prison Service staff in prisons in specified areas
- probation officers (senior or not) and, for intermediate rent only, trainee probation officers
- local authority (LA) or local education authority (LEA) or NHS social workers
- LA therapists (including occupational therapists and speech and language therapists)
- LA educational psychologists
- LA/LEA/NHS nursery nurses
- LA planners
- LA clinical staff
- uniformed staff, below principal level, in fire and rescue services
- Connexions personal advisors
- armed forces personnel and some civilian Ministry of Defence (MoD) personnel (ie clinical staff, MoD police officers and uniformed staff in the Fire and Defence Service), also including some discharged personnel
- Highway Agency traffic officer staff
- LA environmental health officers/practitioners.

**If you are a 'Key Worker' fitting the description above, please contact the office via email or phone call, explaining which type of Key Worker you are. Please do this by 12pm tomorrow (Thursday).** Obviously this offer applies if *either* of the parents are a 'Key Worker'. In the event that your child's class or yeargroup closes for a day, you will be able to bring your child to St Saviour's so long as we know beforehand of your 'Key Worker' status. We know and understand that other occupations of course provide a very important and very valuable service to society, but like many schools in this period we are limiting this offer to public sector 'Key Workers' only due to the very specific nature of their work and their direct role in the challenges the UK currently faces. All of the above is in the event of a class or yeargroup closure only. In

the event of a *full* school closure, further information will be provided at the time for Key Workers.

Today we have been able to keep all year groups open. In some year groups we have put the reduced number of children into one classe, where normally there would be two; this approach is freeing up a second teacher to help to cover any other staff absence in other year groups. Over the next few days, in *all* seven yeargroups, the new arrangement of the children into one classes, not two, will be the norm. We expect the limit on classes to remain at 30 children as usual.

In the next 24 hours we will be letting you know about a **trial of a home learning resource**. You will receive a letter about this today. As mentioned yesterday, the staff have been working on materials to support the children's ongoing learning in the event of the school closing – information about this will be shared with you very soon as well, but we can say at this stage that the support will be in the form of photocopied materials, published booklets and online resources.

We are continuing to remind the children about **good hygiene habits** and are looking to strike a balance with how we talk about Coronavirus, so that the children know how to minimise risk whilst not get overly anxious or worried at the same time. The staff are doing a very good job with this important work.

Please do keep checking reliable sources of information (directly from the NHS is best) and continue to be wary of often very misleading information posted on social media. Thank you once again, for your fantastic suport and cooperation – the staff really appreciate it.

Kind regards



Iram Malik  
Headteacher