

# ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Church Lane  
Lowton  
Warrington  
WA3 2PW

☎ 01942 201140

web [www.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk)  
e-mail [enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is not a letter I ever expected or wanted to write as a Headteacher, but we are facing an unprecedented situation not only in schools, but also across our communities and our country.

Yesterday the government gave instruction to all schools in the country to close. The purpose of this instruction is to slow the national infection rate of Covid-19 in order to protect the vulnerable and elderly in our society and allow our NHS to cope with the increased demand they will experience.

However, last night the education minister stated that schools remain safe for small numbers of children. Therefore in order to ensure that our country is still able to provide care, supplies and safety, the Government has asked that from Monday schools offer a care facility for vulnerable children and families where both parents fall into the Government's definition of key workers. We are still waiting for the Government to issue their list of occupations that fall in to the 'key worker' bracket, and the eligibility of families depending on their family situation or occupation of both parents where applicable. We will let you know as soon as we have it and we will require verification that both parents are 'key workers'.

From Monday we will be operating a skeletal care facility only, between the hours of 8.45-3.30pm, for the limited number of qualifying children as stated above. The qualifying children of parents who are both defined as 'key workers' will be able to access our Breakfast and After School Club and normal fees will apply. However, as I said the education of our children remains at the heart of what we are aiming to do as a school. The children who remain in school will be supported to work through their home learning packs and complete the daily tasks set by their class teacher.

Children of non 'key workers' should stay at home and not be taken to public places.

The latest government advice is available as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)
- Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)
- Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> (this site is updated at 2pm each day)

The education of our children is paramount. It is important that they continue to learn and we are fortunate to have many learning resources that can be accessed from home.

Your child will bring home an extended school closure work folder from their class teacher. The folder contains information, activities and resources that can be accessed both in the home and online.

Please do your best to ensure your child/children take the opportunity to access these resources during the period of school closure.

As soon as we have government direction about reopening our school we will contact you immediately.

Please remember, the school closure is based on the governments scientific research with the aim to slow the infection rate and protect the vulnerable in our community and by following current government advice we will achieve this more quickly.

Please can I thank you for being supportive, kind and understanding to all St Luke's staff who, like yourselves, find themselves in a situation beyond their control, being unable to self-protect themselves to care for our children.

We look forward to welcoming you all back to St Luke's when school reopens.

Yours sincerely,

*S Hardaker*

Mr S Hardaker  
Headteacher

