

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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19 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are still waiting for the Government to release their list of key workers for the purpose of school attendance next week.

In the mean time I can update you with developments at St Luke's. As you can understand, this is a rapidly changing situation and I'm afraid arrangements have changed.

The lack of 'key worker' clarification from the Government means that we have been unable to judge the number of families affected and make provision for an appropriate environment next week. **Therefore school will be completely closed to children on Monday 23 March 2020.**

Our provision of child care for 'key workers' children will only apply where both parents are classed as 'key workers'. **Please can we ask parents, where BOTH parents are key workers as defined by the Government** (in the absence of the government clarification please contact us but we will not be able to confirm some occupations until the list is published), **to contact us by 3:00pm tomorrow, Friday 20 March 2020.** If only one parent is a key worker then we cannot offer provision in school. Additionally we will have to ask for proof of your employment before we can offer provision on site to a child. **To protect our staff's health and wellbeing we kindly ask that you only use St Luke's if you have absolutely no alternative childcare.**

The childcare we will be able to provide will be between the hours of 08:45am and 3:15pm. Unfortunately, after taking advice and assessing our staffing capability, **we will be unable to offer before and after school care.**

As this is a very difficult situation to manage we will require regular attendance – if you only require a part week then we will need to know this by 3:00pm tomorrow and you will be asked to stick to this. We will not be able to add children after 3:00pm tomorrow. Children will have to wear full school uniform and their attendance will be recorded. We will support children to work through their work pack like their peers at home. If children are unwell they should not attend school and the current Covid-19 exclusion guidelines will still apply. If they become unwell during the school day you will be asked to collect them immediately. Similarly, if staff become unwell and have to self-isolate it is possible that we may have to completely close the school and withdraw this facility at very short notice.

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

We are currently looking at ways to fulfil free school meals. If your child is in receipt of free school meals (not universal infant free) please contact school by 3:00pm tomorrow to inform us if you wish to collect a packed lunch each day from school.

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
- Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> (this site is updated at 2pm each day)

Please remember, these measures are 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.

We fully understand that this is a difficult time for all of our families and we ask you to appreciate that it is also a very difficult time for school staff who are unable to self-protect themselves.

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

Yours sincerely,

S Hardaker

Mr S Hardaker
Headteacher

