



St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

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20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update - school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I am now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. Further information regarding Key Workers will follow in light, of the Department of Education publication released just before midnight last night.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure - as you may have heard in the news - so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is through Parent Mail and on our school website.

As previously communicated, we will continue to help your child learn remotely while they are at home. We will continue to follow the EYFS statutory Framework, National Curriculum for KS1 and KS2, Religious Education Curriculum Directory through use of our Come and See programme as well as PSHE Education including Online Safety.

Remote learning access to lesson resources is via our school VLE. This will include:

- A suggested daily timetable/routine for home learning
- A list of helpful websites for additional home learning
- A list of websites which promote physical health and activity at home
- Daily instructions/details of learning objectives for specific subjects to cover within the Parent Zone folder - Where possible the teachers will plan so that the children will follow the same lessons as they do in school each day.
- Children's independent learning within a Child's work folder
- Signposting to specific online learning platforms and websites including use of our subscriptions to Mathematics, Phonics Play and Times Tables Rock stars
- Collective worship/assembly resources for use at home (children in KS2 have already taken home the remaining Wednesday Word leaflets so they can share the weekly Gospel at home)



Teachers will upload learning on a daily basis, during term time from Monday 23rd March 2020. All children have taken home additional exercise books in which they can record their home learning.

We are aware that these events are unprecedented and we wish to provide parents/carers with as much academic support as possible so that together we will ensure the children's progress within their education. Therefore, we will try to make instructions as clear as we can, using PowerPoint where possible to help you deliver direct teaching.

As our VLE is one-way communication from school to home, in the event that parents/carers have questions for the teachers regarding the work that is set, we have set up class emails:

yearR@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

year1@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

year2@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

year_3@staugustine.medway.sch.uk (Please note this is year_3)

year4@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

year5@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

year6@staugustine.medway.sch.uk

The staff email is for essential contact as a replacement of the contact diary. These emails will only be accessed during the teachers directed hours of 8:30am to 4pm, and may not be responded to immediately.

Clearly there may be illness amongst our staff and their families, so if at any point work is not provided for a specific lesson, please focus on independent learning using Mathletics, Phonics Play, Times Tables Rockstars, Oxford Owl reading eBooks and the list of helpful websites that will be included within the Parent Zone and other folders on the VLE.

We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via [insert relevant contact details here].

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS 111 online.

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

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Prestidge

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

