



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Nova Lane, Birstall, West Yorkshire, WF17 9LQ

Telephone: 01924 423220

Website: www.stpatricksbirstall.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Moulding

Deputy Headteacher: Miss J Smith

Email: office.stpatricksbirstall@kirkleeseducation.uk

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure

19.03.20

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from my last update, I am now writing with a heavy heart, to let you know that we have been instructed by the government to close the school from 3:30pm this Friday 20th March until further notice. At this time we have no idea how long that will be but will ensure we maintain communication through email and our school website whilst we are closed.

I am working very closely with the local authority and our governing body to make plans and preparations for the safe care of the children who have parents working within the frontline services. We are currently awaiting clarification from the cabinet office later today on the definition of frontline services. It would help us greatly, in the meantime, if you could let me know by email if you think you will not be able to arrange your own childcare because parents are working in the frontline services – to date: NHS staff, police, delivery drivers of food and medical supplies. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who else this does apply to.

Please send an email to head.stpatricksbirstall@kirkleeseducation.uk – stating ONLY pupil name and class, parent names (both) and their line of work that you believe puts them in the frontline services. Please only reply with the information requested as I am sure you can appreciate I am working extremely hard with the LA and our governors ensuring all decisions are in the very best interests of our pupils, families and staff. I have arranged a meeting already for our Senior Leadership Team, our Chair and Vice Chair of Governors at the end of the school day today.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as I am sure you will have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is, by letter through email and ensuring the website is kept up to date, please always look at the section Coronavirus Education Updates.

I will be sending out a further information letter tomorrow Friday 20th March regarding the home learning packs, the learning resources that we will be putting on the class pages of the website and the arrangements for you to contact the class teacher(s) about your child's learning during the closure.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone at this unprecedented time.

Kind Regards

Mrs C Moulding and all the staff.

