



St Mary's Roman Catholic
Voluntary Aided Primary



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The Government has directed parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open for those children that **ABSOLUTELY NEED TO ATTEND**...every child who can be cared for at home, **MUST** be. If it is at all possible that a child can be at home, then they **MUST** be.

Therefore, if a parent is in a [key worker](#) group but can arrange safe childcare other than school they **MUST** do this. This is to ensure that we protect those workers who are in critical roles and your families from infection as much as possible.

Please refer to the most recent government guidance as this is constantly changing. As we have been directed, we have to keep the number of children in school to an absolute minimum (the Government envisages this to be approximately 10%), we may need to prioritise the most critical key workers.

This will hopefully protect those workers who may well be looking after us if we become ill. These are unprecedented times and we need to protect the children and families in school and at the same time protecting our own staff and their families.

Whilst we will do our best to remain open, there may become a time when we have to close due to staff shortages. If this becomes the case alternative provision would be made by the local authority.

This will be reviewed in two weeks' time.

A SurveyMonkey has been sent out and we have spoken directly to all those who have responded.

We fully understand that this will cause great difficulty for many of you but this is a Global emergency and we all must make great sacrifices. We know that the vast majority of you will completely understand that this is the case and we can rely on your co-operation and support. Please will everyone take this whole situation seriously and follow the advice of the experts. Take care of yourselves and each other.

Best Wishes

Mr Kieran Pavey
Head Teacher

Mrs H Sutherland
Aycliffe Village Primary School

Mrs A Gargan
Byerley Park Primary School

Mr C Brown
Horndale Infants' School

Mrs J Wilkinson
St Francis' CE Junior School

Mr K Pavey
Vane Road Primary School

Mrs F Brown
St Joseph's Primary School

Mrs A Sowden
St Mary's Primary School

Mrs T Page
Stephenson Way Community Primary School

Mrs P O'Rourke
Sugar Hill Primary School

Mr K Pavey
Woodham Burn Primary School