



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr S McNicholas

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing today in response to the address yesterday evening from the Prime Minister.

Clearly, the consensus is that there were many more questions than there were answers after the briefing, and I wanted to let you know that we have no more information than you – we are all hearing it at the same time and having to interpret the many strands at the same time as you.

We will be listening carefully over the next 48 hours to clarifications and discussions coming from the Government and the Local Authority, but at this time we are unable to answer the many questions you may have.

I will repeat what I have said a number of times over the last 6 weeks – we will always prioritise the safety and the wellbeing of our children, staff and their families over all else. As a community we have suffered serious illness and bereavement, and we are still suffering; there simply isn't the clarity or confidence to allow our guard to drop now.

It is important to note too that nothing has changed as a result of last night's briefing – the school remains closed to all but the minority of pupils that have been attending to date. We will not be extending this cohort until clarity is received and certainty is given that it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, I urge you all to stay safe – we can interpret new guidance in many ways but clearly caution is the surest route to safety.

Yours sincerely

Stephen McNicholas
Headteacher