



# Middleton St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Moor Flatts Road, Middleton, Leeds. LS10 3SW

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds

Headteacher: Naomi Wood  
Deputy Headteachers: Suzanne Aston and Suzanne Marston



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06 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware that, over the last day or so, there have been significant changes in the country's approach to tackling Covid-19. One of these has seen the partial closure of schools (to all **but** vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers). Since the announcement on Monday night, staff have been working to identify those pupils eligible to stay in school, as well as ensuring that the educational experience (for all) is as good as it can possibly be. As a school we are, wherever possible, continuing as normal. Our staff will attend work as usual unless they are involved in 'home learning' (note we have far fewer pupils in school and so social distancing is much easier to achieve), either teaching the pupils in school or delivering lessons to those not.

This is obviously a situation nobody wanted but, we are determined to navigate our way through it and ensure that your son/daughter gets the education that he/she deserves. I do want to sincerely thank you for your understanding in having to close the school yesterday to plan for this. In this lockdown, we are not offering 'childcare' as we did March-July. The government have clearly stated that as a school, we must teach the curriculum. Children will be taught in their year group by one of the teachers in that year. Yesterday, staff spent the day re-looking at planning to ensure that the learning children are exposed to in school will be able to be transferred to home learning.

We have paper packs of work to collect from your child. Please come and collect these from the office window stating your child's year group and name. For children learning at home in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6, parents can come and collect a chromebook for your child to access home learning online. A chromebook is like a small laptop. You will need wifi at home to be able to access google classrooms where work will be posted for children to access from Monday, daily. We only have 58 of these devices, they will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Children should use the paper packs up until this point. Your child's logins have now changed to **@msmleeds.co.uk** instead of @middletonstmarys.co.uk to simplify things. Their password is still the same (this should be inside their reading record). Online, children can also access a wealth of resources (see website – class pages) including ttrackstars. Teachers will 'mark' work online 11-12 and 3-4pm. Teachers will also aim to phone home weekly to speak to your child and talk to them about their learning. This will be on the Thursday/Friday of each week from a withheld number. Staff will not have time to call back. We urge our families to do home learning and encourage you to listen to your child read daily. If you would like to collect some additional reading books for your child, please phone the school and let them know so that we can get them ready for you to collect. There is a blue box in the main entrance to drop off completed work packs and reading books. KS2 children can then quiz on Accelerated Reader at home too (their code is also in the back of their reading record). We need their learning to continue. The government guidance states that children should complete 3 hours of home learning a day (this includes reading, ttrackstars etc).

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 have paper packs only and Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents have access to Tapestry. **Please wear a mask when coming into the main office to collect anything and adhere to 2 metre social distancing.**





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## Free School Meals

The government are not providing vouchers for our families this lockdown. As we buy into Leeds Catering Services, and we are still paying them for their service, they will be providing 'grab bags'. They are looking into a hot food option and I hope that I can update our families today via text so they can collect a lunch for their children.

Minimising stress is absolutely vital in a time like this for mental health. Don't let school work be something that stresses you or your child. You are the primary educator and this is your call.

If you are in any difficulty or need to inform school about any changes or you or your household becomes ill, please text the school teachers2parents text line: **07786208446** or the school Facebook page via messenger:

**Middleton St Mary's Primary School.**

Take care and stay safe.

I would also like to take the opportunity to express gratitude for the numerous positive messages that have come in to school since September, yesterday and today. They do make a difference and our staff (teaching and support alike) really appreciate it.

Mrs N Wood, Headteacher.

