



ST. MATTHEW'S
Roman Catholic High School

We Pray, We Care, We Achieve

Dear Parents / Carers,

School is now closed for most students until further notice due to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Please note that if it is at all possible for children to be at home, for their own health and safety and those of the wider community, they should stay at home.

School will be closed for all students except the following by arrangement:

- Children of Key Workers – see list on the government website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>
- Any student with an Education Health and Care Plan
- Vulnerable students

Children of Key Workers

The St Matthew's community are very grateful to all of the key workers across society who are caring for us at this time. In return, our staff team will offer provision for your child. It is critical to note, however, that this provision should **only** be taken up if there are no other alternatives (see guidance).

If you think that your job is classified as a key worker, **you have no other alternatives** and you wish to take up this provision, please contact Mr. Ostmeier (C.Ostmeier@smrchs.com) **unless you have already done so**. You may be asked to provide us with some evidence.

Specialist Support Provision

Those children with safeguarding and welfare needs, including those children on child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers and those with Education Health and Care plans are also able to attend school if they wish. This is an offer to parents/carers and **there is no requirement for parents/carers to send their children to school if they do not wish to**.

Again, if you would like to take up this offer, and you have not been in contact with school, please contact Mr. Ostmeier on the email above.

Free School Meals

The Government has made a commitment to provide any family in receipt of Free School Meals with some form of payment or voucher but are still working on the details of this. We will be posting out supermarket vouchers to support you in the meantime. You should receive these early next week.

Please contact Ms. Nicholls via email (H.Nicholls@smrchs.com) if you need these urgently and we will arrange collection.

Finally, can I remind you all of the importance of social distancing and hand washing as we work together to eliminate this virus.

As Headteacher of St Matthew's, can I thank you all for the support you have shown our staff and students this week. We really do have a wonderful school community.

Please do keep yourselves and your families safe,

Mrs H Murden