



20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This morning the Government announced the criteria for those children for whom school will remain open for on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March **should you choose to send them**. Government guidance is clear. To further limit the spread of COVID-19, if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.

We will remain open for:

- children with a named social worker. This means children with child protection plans, children in need and those in care;
- children who have an education and health care plan (EHCP)
- children of key workers.

Key workers are:

- NHS staff
- Social Care workers
- Staff in Schools and nurseries
- Police and community support officers
- Prison officers and staff
- Probation officers and trainee probation officers
- LA officers and LA/ NHS social workers
- Uniformed staff in fire and rescue services
- Highway agency traffic staff
- LA environmental health officers/practitioners
- Armed forces personnel and some civilian MOD personnel (i.e. clinical staff, MOD police, uniformed fire and defence) and some discharged personnel
- Care workers
- Food/supermarket drivers and staff
- Staff who maintain critical infrastructure, gas and electric
- Drivers for school children
- Back office staff supporting critical services
- Emergency planning and resilience partnership staff
- Pharmacists
- Some financial services

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Headteacher: Mrs R Ayres

**ST. MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Working in partnership with:



**BIRMINGHAM CITY**  
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Full details can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Whilst this list of key workers is helpful and we want to do all we can to help, we can only open if we have enough staff to ensure safe and purposeful provision. **Ultimately the decision to allow your child to attend rests with us as a school.**

**Therefore, if you think you qualify, we would like you to carefully consider the following:**

1. If you are a key worker, do you have another family member, **who is NOT in the stringent social distancing category or anyone with underlying health conditions** who can safely look after your children? (e.g. Husband, wife or responsible adult you can trust).
2. Do you need your child to be in school every day? It will allow us to have more children in school if every child is not in every day. If, for example, you work part time as a key worker or you have child care one or two days.

**If you think that your child will be in school from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March please contact the school office promptly, by email before 12 pm today in order for us to be able to plan provision. Please state your occupation/occupations and the days when you will require care.**

**If we can offer care, a confirmation email will be sent out to you later today.**

**If you know that you do not qualify and you child will NOT be in school until further notice, please do not contact the school.**

Thank you everybody for your ongoing support and understanding to ensure that we put the health of the nation first.

Stay safe everyone, best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Ayres  
Head Teacher