



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Holloway, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB

Tel: 01666 822331; Email: admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear parents

I wanted to write to you to make you aware that following DfE guidance the school will be closed from the end of the day on Friday 20th March 2020.

As a school we have worked hard to continue providing lessons in school through the last few weeks, our priority has been to keep the school community going and together.

As you may be aware from the announcement yesterday, schools will remain open for children identified as a child with a parent who is a key worker or if your child has a social worker or an Education Health Care plan (EHCP). In order to plan our staffing and catering for next week, please can you let the school know by 11am tomorrow morning, if your child will be attending school next week and if they will require a school meal.

If your child has free school meals, they are welcome in school either for lunch or the whole day. Please can you inform us by 11am tomorrow morning, if you would like your child to be in school and if they will require a school meal.

You can inform us by telephone or by emailing the school at admin@st-josephs-malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk

I must remind you that your child must remain at home unless identified in the groups identified above. Please remember if anyone in the family is displaying symptoms they should self-isolate and the family members should also stay at home for 14 days.

During term time we will continue to provide a programme of work for children to access online and paper based learning. Each class will be contacted by their teacher through Dojo with daily activities to complete. We suggest that you try to keep to a timetable, which suits your family commitments to keep a sense of routine for your children through their home learning.

As I am sure you understand this is new to us all and as a school we wish to continue to provide learning opportunities. The teachers will aim to reply to messages on a daily basis, however this may not be instantly, and as I am sure you understand this would not be possible.



Please can I ask that you limit your Dojo communication to teachers to between the hours of 9am and 4pm. This will give them the opportunity to prepare for learning and reply to any queries. You may notice that our TAs also have Dojo and we are happy for any queries to go to a TA also, however they will only be able to respond within their working hours.

We understand for some parents accessing information online may be difficult so please continue to carry out the learning in the books provided.

If you would like further information on the latest Government guidance you can find more information below.

The Chief Medical Officer provided new advice around self-isolation and Public Health England have updated their web pages so we would encourage you to review the updated information online: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

DfE Helpline for Corona Virus queries: Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

10am – 4pm Saturday and Sunday

From today I myself am self-isolating for 7 days following advice from the DfE and PWH.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your understanding and support during this difficult time and all the very kind supportive comments I and the teachers have had, your support has meant a lot at this difficult time.

Stay safe, keep in touch and God bless.

Kind regards

Mrs Sue Woods

Head Teacher