



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs C Fenna B.Ed.

20th March 2020

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after today** in order to try to reduce the spread of the virus as much as possible by decreasing the numbers of children and staff in schools to a minimum. The school will only be open to children of key workers. If you think you are in the category for child care please contact us today.

Staff have been creating learning packs for all children in order to minimise as much as possible, lost learning time during school closure. Each pack has a mix of online and paper based activities as well as open ended tasks which we hope the children will complete and enjoy. Obviously for Year 6 this is a crucial time and their packs also include revision and study guides to help keep them on the best possible educational path towards their transition to secondary school.

Within each pack is a suggested daily work plan which we hope you will encourage your child to follow so they can keep to a routine as much as possible.

I understand the disruption the closure of the school will cause to you and your family but it is necessary that we comply with Government instructions. For your part, it is very important that you ensure your child is at home and not just out playing or mixing with friends.

Parents are asked to follow the key principles listed below:

If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.

If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.

Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

We will be able to update you with any news we have and will do that through text messages, Facebook @StPaulsCPS and Twitter @StPaulsRCWirral Please ensure that we have your current contact details.

For children who are entitled to a meal at school, the kitchens will be preparing takeaway packed lunches which will be available for collection at 12.15 each day.

I apologise for the inconvenience to you in closing the school. Thank you for your patience and support during the last couple of weeks when the news has changed daily and it has been difficult to give absolute answers to your questions and worries. We have been able to maintain a good staffing level with the minimum of children absent from school which is testament to your great commitment to your child's education. I would also like to pay tribute to the wonderful staff of St Paul's who have kept the school clean, been the first point of contact, kept everything as normal as possible for the children and supported each other, you and the children in the unassuming, dedicated way they have. We are certainly very lucky to have them all whatever their role in the school community.

We will all come through this together so let's support each other and remain as positive as we can. If there is anything we can do to support you, please let us know. My best wishes go to you and your family. Hopefully we will be able to get the school back to normal before too long.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Fenna
Headteacher