



## ST RICHARD'S VC ACADEMY

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

As I am sure you will now be aware, all schools have been instructed from the Prime Minister to close with immediate effect. Even for those children who are eligible ('Vulnerable Pupils' and children of 'Critical Workers'), **if children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**

That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely** need to attend.

### Critical workers

It is **not** compulsory for Critical Workers children to attend school.

It is an **emergency service**, and if children can be at home safely because there is adequate care, then this is what **must** happen.

The whole point is to reduce transmission as this will **save lives**.

Therefore whilst the school is "open", we literally want to support the minimum number of children so that we have to deploy the minimum level of staffing, and expose the minimum number of people to risk. **You should only send your child to school now if you have to, because your work is critical to the COVID response.**

**If you are able to keep your child at home, you should.**

If your work is critical to the COVID response or EU transition, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision> and you **cannot** keep your child safe at home, then your child(ren) will be prioritised for education provision.

If your work is critical and there are no other childcare options available, you can book a place in school by completing the survey which has been sent via text link or by ringing the school office on 01482 781928.

### Remote Learning

We will therefore be resuming online learning, via Google Classroom, in combination with pre-recorded teaching sessions and lessons from Oak Academy.

Today teachers are planning learning so that it can be delivered in an interactive and engaging way remotely. The teaching staff are as ever committed to ensuring that all our children continue to work hard and make the good levels of progress, that they have all done, since returning to school in September.

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Executive Head  
Mrs Karen Siedle  
 @strichardsrc

Acting Head of School  
Mrs Emma Cook



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Staff are prepared to deliver lessons in this way and will continue to provide learning opportunities across the curriculum. I recognise that this model of learning can be challenging and we appreciate your support.

Please ensure that you are able to log into google classroom and contact the school on 01482 781928 or through [admin@strhull.org](mailto:admin@strhull.org) if you are unable to access it and we will work with you to get this up and running.

If you are experiencing difficulties with access to a device, then please contact school so we can try to assist you.

Home Learning Tasks will be available as paper copies which will be available to collect from tomorrow. More details will follow about this later today.

We have put together a dual learning package for online and offline learners. We want to ensure all pupils can access our core areas of learning. If they unable to access online learning or do not have a suitable device on which to work, please let us know and we will provide paper packs

### **Free School Meals provision**

We will also update you on Free School Meal provision for those children not attending school as soon as we receive more information.

As ever I want to thank you for your continued support, patience and understanding.

Kind regards

Mrs E. Cook  
Acting Head of School

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