

— St —
WINIFRED'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Committed to Safeguarding

Nursery through to Year 6
Newstead Road,
Lee,
London
SE12 0SJ

Tel: 0208 857 8792

Headteacher: Miss Margaret Hanrahan
Deputy: Ms Sheelagh Campbell
Acting Deputy: Ms Fiona Cullen

Email: admin@swcps.lewisham.sch.uk

Web site: <http://www.swcps.lewisham.sch.uk>

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Most of you will now know that yesterday, the government ordered schools in the UK to close on the afternoon Friday 20th March until further notice.

I realise this is distressing news for the entire school community and will leave many anxious, but I want to reassure everyone that we will continue to support you and your children in any way we can in the coming weeks and months.

There will be no SATS, Phonic Tests or Early Years Assessments this year.

Over today and tomorrow we will plan for how we can offer a service to look after the children of key workers and other children that the government wants us to keep in school. At this point we cannot give you any more details, but we will let you know what our plans are as soon as possible. So far, we have been told that Vulnerable children are **those with an EHCP already in place.**

Keyworkers were defined as: **emergency services, NHS health workers, social care workers, utility staff and delivery drivers.**

It is important to understand that this provision is child care rather than formal structured lessons and as yet we do not know if this would be in our school or as a joint agreement with other local schools. Provision for children of key workers applies **where both parents are key workers or the parent who looks after the child/ren in a single parent household is a key worker.** In order to plan our provision we now need to find out how many pupils we are making provision for and their current classes.

If this applies to you and you would like us to make this provision for you, please could you inform our school office URGENTLY by phone or email: stating your child/ren's name/s, you and your partner's key worker roles, or your key worker role if you are a sole carer for your child/ren.

All staff have worked really hard this week to ensure we have 'home learning' arrangements in place. Teachers have put home learning packs together for all their pupils and will email the parents/carers of all pupils in their classes to explain what they have put in place. You will be able to contact your child's teacher by email throughout the school closure with any queries etc regarding their home learning. They will respond to these during normal working hours. Staff are not allowed to email individual pupils but can communicate through parents.

You will also be signposted to lots of online learning provision. We would urge you to limit online time and encourage human interaction - family games, fitness challenges, dancing, cooking together, reading and making up stories and lots of fun. We are sending packs to help focus children but do not want to add any



pressure to families at this time so please do not worry if for any reason, this work cannot be done.

Wellbeing must be the main priority for everyone.

Pupils attending school today, will take their packs home this afternoon. Packs for pupils who are not in school today will be available for collection in the main school hall from 2.30pm to 3pm this afternoon. Access will be through the main school gate and you will be allowed to go into the hall on this occasion. If your child is not in school today you can arrange for another parent to collect this for you. If you are well and not in isolation, then you are welcome to come in to collect it yourself. Otherwise you could arrange for somebody else to collect your pack from the school office between 3.30 and 4.30 this afternoon. If collection is not possible, please let us know and we will do our best to get the pack to you.

We will work hard to make sure this is a seamless transition for the children. We will be talking to the children about what will happen next to help them to make sense of it all, keep them calm and reassure them.

I want to thank you all for working with us and for your wonderful support for the school at this time. We will do our best to keep you updated on our website, by text and by email (as appropriate) throughout closure.

Please be assured that the safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff and the school community remain our priority and we are happy to be of assistance where we can. Thank you for the tremendous support you have shown and for your wonderful generosity to our food bank. Please remember this is available for anyone who needs it; just ask in the office.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Hanrahan