Sunday 3rd January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Change of arrangements for school opening

I am writing to update you on the current situation at St Joseph's, regarding our children's proposed return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.
In light of recent government discussions, announcements and guidance from various unions, a review of our current risk assessments and a review of staffing levels available to us from Tuesday next week, we have had to make the very difficult decision to move to remote learning from Tuesday 5th January. This means that school will be **closed to all children from Tuesday 5th January except children who fall into the category of vulnerable or key worker children**, until initially the 18th January.

If you feel that your child qualifies for a key worker place, please complete the survey that will be sent to you. Please note, we may need to limit places to families with 2 key workers and single parent households first.

I would like to reassure you that as previously, we will be offering lunches to those who are entitled to free school meals. There will be an updated questionnaire coming out to parents soon to gather up to date information, this questionnaire will also include questions relating to home learning resources for us to ensure that all children can access appropriate learning from home.

I can only apologise for the late notification of this change to the start of the new term, however schools and headteachers were only informed last night and it has taken till now to collect and review the information required. I appreciate how difficult it is for parents and families to receive this information but I would like to reassure you all that our greatest wish is to have all of our pupils back into school, safely, as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Ashton
Headteacher

Respect, friendship, excellence, care