



St Teresa's Catholic Primary School  
Elsenham Crescent, Basildon, SS14 1UE



Headteacher: Mrs Nuala Cashell MA Ed, NPQH  
[www.st-teresasrc.essex.sch.uk](http://www.st-teresasrc.essex.sch.uk)  
Telephone: 01268 553502

## SCHOOL CLOSURE - CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Dear Parents

20th March 2020

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School can confirm that as of 20<sup>th</sup> March we have implemented a school closure.

This morning we have received further guidance from the Department of Education on how we maintain education provision following the announcement earlier this week that schools will close.

You can access the parent guide here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The Department of Education have released the list of key workers today (see below).

**Please note that the guidance is for anyone in the below categories who cannot keep their child safe at home.** If it is possible for your child to be kept at home, then they should stay at home as this would support our school to manage the most in need group within our school community. We are not staffed to full capacity due to illness and self-isolation and this will deteriorate as some staff fall in to the high risk categories and are currently still attending.

### **Health and social care**

FRONTLINE health and social care staff such as doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, as well as support and specialist staff in the health and social care sector. In addition, it includes those working in supply chains including producers and distributors of medicines and personal protective equipment

### **Education and childcare**

Nursery, teaching staff and social workers

### **Key public services**

Those required to run the justice system, religious staff, as well as those responsible for managing the deceased, and journalists providing public service broadcasting.

### **Local and national government**

Administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response or delivering essential public services, including payment of benefits.

### **Food and other necessary goods**

Those involved in the production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery of **food**.

### **Public safety and national security**

Police, support staff, Ministry of Defence civilian staff and armed forces personnel, fire and rescue staff, and those responsible for border security, prisons and probation.

### **Transport**

Those who will keep air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response.



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### **Utilities, communication and financial services**

Staff required to keep oil, gas, electricity, water and sewerage operations running. Staff in the civil nuclear, chemical and telecommunications sectors. Those in postal services and those working to provide ESSENTIAL financial services.

If you think you fall under the category of key worker, in order for us to assess how many children and young people will require provision from Monday, please notify the school today between 10am and 2pm.

If you are identified as a key worker, you must bring photo ID in to school today or before the start of school on Monday.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, **their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.**

**If you are a key worker working from home, this does not include you.** If you can do your job from home, please do not use our service.

Please be really considerate when questioning should your child attend school as too many children will mean we have to restrict key worker categories and our priority will be NHS staff and social care pupils.

Parents of children that do not fall into these categories please use the online education resources until we get back to normal.

Thank you for your support at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Cashell