

# St Paul's Catholic Primary School and Nursery



**Aspire Believe Succeed**

**'Do everything with love'**

first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 16:14

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20 March 2020

Dear Parents

Schools will be shut as of the end of the school day today. The government announced today that schools will continue to provide for the most vulnerable children and those families with critical workers. Many parents working as 'critical workers' may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. This is the best place for them.

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.

The fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individual in the wider society.

The list of critical workers is:

- Health and social care
- Key public services
- Public safety and national security
- Utilities, communication and financial services
- \* Education and childcare
- \* Local and national government
- \* Transport
- \* food and other necessary goods

The school will remain open on Monday for children who fall into these categories. Please note that there is an expectation that when the children are not at school they remain in the family home following the governments guidelines on social distancing and social isolation.

During the school closure period members of the senior leadership team will be available to support families remotely. We have a dedicated email address for parents/children to use to keep in touch [intouch@st-pauls.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:intouch@st-pauls.portsmouth.sch.uk). There will also be a member of staff in the school office to answer the telephone from Monday to Friday 8:00am to 1:00pm should you need to speak to a member of staff.

Once the closure is in progress the website will be updated on a regular basis, so please keep looking at the website for the most up to date information etc.

Key stage assessments have been cancelled and children do not need to prepare for these now. We acknowledge all of the hard work that the children and staff have dedicated to these assessments and it does not take away how proud we are of their many and varied successes this year. However, children should keep learning and a number of resources will be available on our school website, there will also be videos of the staff who have set challenges for the children to complete at home.

We are aware that some of you are under extreme pressure managing the demands of family life and balancing this with challenges of employment. You remain in our thoughts and prayers.

Yours faithfully

Mrs B Schouller  
Executive Headteacher

Mrs Z Killick  
Head of School



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