



St Nicolas and St Mary Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Eastern Avenue, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 6PE

Tel: 01273 454470 Email: office@stnm.org.uk

Web: <http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

Executive Headteacher Mr D Etherton B.Ed Hons. NPQH

Acting Headteacher Mr A Lincoln BA Hons

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Spring Term Reopening Arrangements – Tuesday 5th January onwards

Following on from our letter yesterday and a meeting of our Senior Leadership Team (alongside discussions with governors) we are writing to inform you that the school is **UNABLE** to open as from tomorrow for all children. We will remain open for vulnerable children and those whose parents and carers are critical to the covid-19 response.

We appreciate that this may be difficult for many of you but the safety of the children, staff and wider community has to be our and the governors first priority.

I know many of you will be supportive of this decision based on the number of emails I have received over the last few days.

We will review this decision on Friday, when the government may have provided further clarity for schools – we are aware that the government is making a televised announcement at 8pm this evening detailing further steps that must be taken to address the surge in covid-19 cases.

A big thank you for your swift responses to our parent survey today regarding critical worker status. We are presently collating the information and as soon as possible we will send a text message to confirm to parents/carers if your child has a place in school tomorrow. In addition, we will also contact parents of vulnerable children to let you know about a place in school for your child tomorrow.

The online learning will be delivered to all children remaining at home from Tuesday 5th January. On Tuesday, this will consist of activities for the children to complete which can be found on the school website. From Wednesday 5th January this will be delivered via *Google Classroom* (for years 1-6) and *Evidence Me* for EYFS. More details including log-in details and instructional guides will be sent via email tomorrow.

Face Coverings

In order to keep our school community as safe as possible it is now mandatory to wear a face covering on our school premises and ideally also when approaching the school grounds (unless you have valid health reasons for not doing so).

Communication with Teaching Staff

All communication with teaching staff must now be conducted via email or telephone/video calls unless already pre-arranged. The only exception to this will be very short conversations which may need to take place with EYFS staff. SLT members will still be able to communicate with parents/carers on the school gate, from a distance, as normal.

We once again thank you for your understanding, support and assistance at this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Andy Lincoln
Acting Headteacher