



## St Godric's RC VA Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs C Craig

*We love, value and respect each other.*

20<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents,

Further to the letter Mrs Craig sent out on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January, I would like to highlight the difficulties that are facing our school at present.

After the government announcement to close schools on 4<sup>th</sup> January and to open only to accommodate vulnerable children and the children of critical workers who have no other option of educational provision, we have been inundated with requests from parents who are critical workers. Indeed, the government list of critical workers is extensive.

Ideally, children of critical workers should stay at home if they can. This will reduce the possibility of the virus spreading within our school community. St Godric's is only open for those children who absolutely need to attend to ensure children's safety and the safety of school staff.

Furthermore, St Godric's cannot guarantee a place for all our families at this time. Any offer of a place is based upon current staffing capacity and in accordance with our risk assessment which ensures health and safety for all.

As a consequence of increasing demand, I am asking for your continued support at this time. If it is at all possible, it is safer for most children to be at home. Whilst we understand families may want to take up their entitlement, we would ask parents to consider if this is absolutely necessary and is made on the grounds that parents would not be able to safely look after their children from home without this support. Please do contact the school if you feel that you are able to make alternative arrangements for your child to enable them to learn from home.

May I also take this opportunity to thank the parents and the staff for the wonderful work that they are doing in providing and supporting home learning for the pupils in the school. Thank you too for all of the very positive feedback and words of encouragement that have been given to staff during the course of the last couple of weeks. The staff have worked hard to provide home learning which is age appropriate and meets the needs of the pupils. This current offer will remain as it is until half term when staff and governors will review what is being provided and may make adjustments following an expected announcement from the government related to the reopening of schools.

We know that many parents will be trying to juggle their own careers with home educating each child. All that we ask is that parents do the best that they can to support their children. The home learning list is extensive; the teachers only expect the parents to complete what they feel that their child is able to do in the current circumstances.



Thank you for your ongoing support in these difficult times.  
Yours sincerely,

*Mark Stephenson*

Mr Mark Stephenson  
Chair of the Governors

