



## St Mary & St Pancras C. E. Primary School

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Headteacher **Jules Belton**, Deputy Headteacher: **Lucy Heard**  
Assistant Headteacher: **Lesley Carneiro**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

### **Essential Childcare Provision Update**

You will have seen the news at the weekend. Government guidance is clear:

**“If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society”.**

Children of key workers must only **come to school if there is absolutely no other option**. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

We are asking parents to please now consider their situation and if you, your partner or anyone else (not on the vulnerable list) can be at home with the children then they should be cared for at home *e.g. if an adult is working from home themselves the children should not be in school*.

The message is that we need to limit the number of children and staff in the school as much as possible to limit the chance of the virus spreading. The health and safety of your child and of our staff is our priority.

**Schools have been asked to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.**

These arrangements will be in place for the next two weeks until the Easter holidays, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Alongside Camden Local Authority, we will be reviewing our current provision and will contact parents about arrangements for the Easter holiday and beyond in due course.

We thank you for understanding the school’s position and thanks to those parents who have already informed us that they have made alternative arrangements for childcare.

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For those who are attending, please make sure that the children:

- arrive at 9am sharp
- are collected at 3:30 sharp

We are staffing the school on a skeleton staff and remaining open depends on numbers of staff available to do so safely. Please be aware that if your child has an accident we expect you to come to school immediately to collect them. The emergency services are overstretched and though all staff at STMP are trained first responders, we cannot provide any more than basic first aid.

With kind regards,

Ms J Belton

Headteacher