



# Serve - Learn - Challenge - Love

Holy Trinity CE Academy Rothwell

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Co-CEO: Ms Catherine Garrett

Co-CEO: Mrs Helen Pratten

Principal: Mr D Foulke

Dear parents/carers,

## Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

I am now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. Given the small staff team at Holy Trinity and the number of staff already identifying as vulnerable/having to self-isolate it is going to be a challenge to stay open. In the interests of staff and pupil health we have to limit access to school to only these pupils. We will only have a skeleton staff onsite and even then staff are not following government guidelines about social distancing. They are putting National interest first and doing what we are being asked to do to benefit us all. We are doing this so doctors and nurses can look after the sick, so care workers can look after the elderly, so services keep us all safe and so deliveries keep us all fed. We want to make a difference and help everyone through this difficult time. We want to do this to show our support of all key workers and our solidarity with other public services.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories: uniformed emergency service, NHS staff, education staff, social services and logistics/goods delivery. Please email school:

- the names of your child(ren),
- parent(s) role and employer,
- employment details of other household members and current working arrangements
- days you need
- whether you are currently self-isolating but would require a future date

We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to.

With the exception of approved key worker children and those invited to attend with certain needs **all other pupils are to stay at home. We ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by text, website notice and social media.

## What we will continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn.

- Work will be set on Tapestry daily for Reception class pupils
- Work will be set on Seesaw for all other classes
- You will be able to share your child's learning with their teachers on Tapestry and Seesaw
- Children have been provided with a home learning book
- You will be given a class email address to ask teachers questions and communicate
- Teachers will respond to emails and Tapestry/Seesaw during school hours providing that they are well or not in school as part of the skeleton staff



If your child usually receives a free school meal, we will have a grab bag ready for you to collect at an allocated time from school (details to follow). **This applies to means tested free school meals and not those who receive universal free school meals.** To be eligible you will be in receipt of certain benefits or certain tax credits (see <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>). The council automatically notifies school if you are eligible and we have texted to inform parents of eligible pupils about the arrangements.

#### **What we won't be able to go ahead with**

- School trips
- Events
- Internal exams or tests

We have yet to make a decision on breakfast/afterschool club.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it is far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via the school email – [info@holytrinityce.co.uk](mailto:info@holytrinityce.co.uk) instead of ringing the school office.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

D. Foulke  
Principal