

Headteacher:
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Dear Parents,

Following the government's announcement yesterday about school closures, I can confirm that we will be open for the remainder of this week but will **close from Monday next week** for the vast majority of children. In order to support the government strategy to minimise the spread of the coronavirus, from next Monday, **if needed**, we will be open for the following only. This is not compulsory - you may choose to keep your child at home if you have alternative childcare:

- children who **do not have a parent or carer at home** to look after them because they are key workers, (see list below)
- vulnerable children, such as those who have an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan)
- children who have some involvement with Social Care

The roles listed below have been assumed by South Gloucestershire classed as keyworkers:

- National Health Service staff
- School teaching staff including teachers, TAs and nursery nurses (Pupils of school staff would be expected to attend their own school)
- Police officers, Community Support Officers
- Prison officers and some other Prison staff
- Probation Service staff
- Social workers, educational psychologists, and therapists
- Firefighters
- Delivery drivers

If you fall into any of these categories and require childcare could you please email us **by 3:30 tomorrow** (Friday) at the following email address: office@stmichaelswinterbourne.co.uk so that we can ensure we are able to staff each day.

In the email please state:

- Your child's first name & surname
- Class
- Which days they need to be in school
- Explicit reasons why your child needs to be in school (related to the criteria above)
- A requirement yes or no for breakfast club

There will be breakfast club however no after-school clubs will run from next Monday.

Our staff team are committed to ensuring that we can remain open for these priority children and that we can provide education to the majority of children working at home. Your co-operation is really important in terms of only sending your child to school if you have to for the reasons above, and in supporting your child's learning at home.

We will be sending further information about learning at home over the coming days and into next week. If your child does need to be in school, we will ensure that they complete the similar learning as those at home, rather than attempt 'normal' lessons, and will balance this with a variety of play and creative opportunities.

The closure is for the foreseeable future. During term time, staff will be available via email (see below) or telephone at arranged times, so if you have any concerns over the coming weeks ahead, please do get in touch. They will be contactable during our usual school hours. Teachers may contact you over the next couple of weeks via telephone, however their phone number will show up as 'No Caller ID'.

For those children eligible for free school meals, the government is developing a national voucher scheme. If you are at all concerned about your circumstances in the meantime, please contact the school for support.

You will also note that all statutory tests (KS1 & 2 SATs, Y1 Phonics, Y4 Timestables Check) are cancelled for this academic year.

These are challenging time for us all, but I know with the spirit that we have shown as a team that includes staff, children, parents and governors, we will get through this. I have been overwhelmed at the support I have received over these past few weeks, which I am truly grateful for.

Best wishes



Kirsty Robson

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