

1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

### **PLANS FOR REMOTE LEARNING**

Dear Parents,

While we are currently enjoying having all children back in school, we are also very aware that the national and local situations are subject to change and that we must prepare for all eventualities. These could include, but would not be limited to:

- National lockdown.
- Local lockdown.
- Positive cases of Covid 19 in the St Joseph's community that would lead to a class, group or small number of pupils needing to self-isolate.

In any of the above situations, we have been working to ensure that we have the capacity to offer immediate remote education, though of course given the innumerable variables we cannot provide detailed plans for every possible scenario.

What we have proven in the months since March 20<sup>th</sup> is that we have the staff and IT capacity to provide for your children in the worst-case scenario – that of immediate national lockdown. We are also confident that we can provide for the children in the case of a range of other scenarios, and that these will enable children to make progress, that we are able to assess that progress and that we can adapt accordingly as work is assessed and marked.

As previously, we would of course balance this with the knowledge that each family circumstance is different, and that we will make provision that takes into consideration 'pupils' age, stage of development or special educational needs, for example where this would place significant demands on parents' help or support.'<sup>1</sup>

It is of paramount importance to me and all staff that we are ready and able to provide uninterrupted education to your children in all circumstances.

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<sup>1</sup> Cornwall Council message from service director 29/09/2020



**Exceptional results with a Firm Foundation for Life**



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The single best measure of this is parental feedback and feedback from staff and children. We adapted and improved our online and offline provision over the 2020 summer term in light of this, and would once again need to prove we are able to go beyond the guidance for provision, and that we can again provide for your children in a wide range of circumstances.

One yardstick for provision is how we perform against the County guidance. This is copied here:

*In developing contingency plans, we expect schools to:*

- *use a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources and teaching videos and that is linked to the school's curriculum expectations*
- *give access to high quality remote education resources*
- *select the online tools that will be consistently used across the school in order to allow interaction, assessment and feedback and make sure staff are trained in their use*
- *provide printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, for pupils who do not have suitable online access*
- *recognise that younger pupils and some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support and so schools should work with families to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum*

*When teaching pupils remotely, we expect schools to:*

- *set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects*
- *teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally, with a good level of clarity about what is intended to be taught and practised in each subject*
- *provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher in the school or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos*



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- *gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum, using questions and other suitable tasks and set a clear expectation on how regularly teachers will check work*
- *enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding*
- *plan a programme that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, ideally including daily contact with teachers*

Our intention is that we meet or exceed this guidance, guidance which is specific to a large number of pupils being required to remain at home. As such, please find attached the current planning in the event of closure. This would be most like for a year group, class or bubble.

With the Senior School there are the evident logistical issues of closing and individual year group, or bubble, while the other year groups, or bubble, were to be in school. We would intend to keep as many pupils in school as would be safely possible to do. As ever, we will always be guided by what is best for the safety of your children.

In closing to any larger group (year group or Key Stage, for example) we would be guided by our Local Public Health Team and either the DfE helpline or PHE. This would depend on whether we had one (DfE) or two or more (PHE) confirmed cases in school.

**It is important to stress we have had no confirmed cases in school and no confirmed cases of those in any pupil's households.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any of the above. While there is much in 2020 that is beyond our control, please rest assured that the team at St Joseph's will do all we can to support your children whatever tomorrow may bring.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Oliver Scott



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