



# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newbold Road • Upper Newbold • Chesterfield • S41 8AG

Headteacher: Mrs M Dengate M.Phil

Telephone: 01246 201191

Email: [enquiries@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk)  
[www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk)

27 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well at this difficult time.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and patience as we steer our way through this unprecedented period of lockdown and school closure. It is a challenge for all members of our school community, but we will get through it together. We miss all our young people terribly and look forward to a return to normality as soon as circumstances allow.

There are so many government updates and press releases each day, it can be quite a task to keep fully up to date with the latest key information. With this in mind, I would like to remind you about the **criteria regarding children eligible to attend school during the closure period:**

*The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they must, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. Schools, and all childcare providers, are therefore being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children:*

- ***Children of key workers*** - Children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.
- ***Vulnerable children*** - this includes children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

**If your child belongs to one of the eligibility groups outlined above, and you would like them to come in to school, please email Mrs S Cain [scaïn@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk](mailto:scaïn@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk) to inform us of which days/times your child will be in attendance.**

If you do decide to send your child, please be aware of the following:

- We are open between 8.30 am – 3.00 pm daily.
- Pupils must arrive through the main gate and report to the Library or Learning Support (they will be directed on arrival).
- Social distancing and handwashing procedures are in place AT ALL TIMES including break and lunchtime.
- Pupils will have a workspace to complete work set by staff independently.
- Pupils must bring in their own snacks and lunch, as we do not have any catering facilities and we will not allow pupils off site.
- Pupils can wear their own clothes.
- Pupils are permitted to bring in their mobile phone.

---

***Live, Love and Learn in the Light of Christ***

For more information, please check our school website Coronavirus page and the official government website:

<https://www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk/information/coronavirus-closure/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Dengate', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mrs M Dengate**  
**Headteacher**