



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

'Doing our best for God'

Date: Monday, 11 January 2021

Good afternoon everyone,

We start week two of caring for Critical/Key Worker and identified vulnerable children. I appreciate the criteria for Key Workers has changed and so we are inevitably going to receive requests for more places for children to be in school. During the last Lockdown, we had approximately 58 children eligible to attend. This lockdown has seen our numbers increase to 94, nearly double the capacity. Asking parents to only book in on the days needed has taken our numbers down, on the daily attendance, which will ultimately mitigate the risk for our school community. On Friday, we received further guidance from the DfE on whom we should be accepting into school.

'Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.'

In order to be fair and transparent with our procedures, I would please ask:

- Only book your child into school on the days that you are working as a Key Worker/Critical Worker and only if you absolutely need to (this does not apply to identified vulnerable children that we have had a conversation with)
- Please continue to fill in the weekly (this will be sent out on a Thursday) Google form requesting a place
- Please send into school a letter/email from your employer as proof of being a Critical Worker/Key worker - full time, part time or shifts. Unless we have spoken to you directly, if the documentation does not come into school by tomorrow, I am afraid I will not be able to guarantee your child a place in school
- If your child only attends school part-time, the expectation is that they access the Google Classroom – Online Learning on the other days
- Please remember to book your child's lunches on ParentPay. If you have booked in advance and know your child is only attending part-time, please cancel the days that your child does not need a lunch. We are continually having to disturb classrooms **and learning time, as parents have not booked/cancelled a meal choice for their child.**



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Head Teacher: Mrs Alexis Satterthwaite



Our school will remain open if it is safe to do so, please ensure that you monitor your children's health very carefully before sending them to school. A reminder of the current guidelines:

- If your child or anyone in your family has any of the Covid-19 symptoms, you must all isolate and get a test immediately. Children should only return to school if the test result comes back negative.
- If you or a family member tests positive for Covid-19, all family members must isolate for 10 days - in both cases above, you must inform the school.
- If your child has any sickness or diarrhoea, they must stay at home for 48 hours (after the last episode) before returning to school. We are still asking that any child with any of the lower threshold symptoms to be kept off school until they are feeling better:
 - aches and pains
 - sore throat
 - headache
 - a rash on skin, or discolouration of fingers

Children staying at home:

Please continue to access the Online learning – via the Google Classroom set by your child's teacher:

If you are using the Google Classroom platform and have any issues, please post a message on the feed to the individual teacher

If you are still struggling with the platform and have not made contact with your child's class teacher or do not have a suitable device to access Online Learning, please make contact:

google.classroom@stbernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

Miss Scarlett is our Lead Teacher for this platform and will reply and support as soon as she is able to. Please check out the school website for further support – 'Google Classroom tile on the front page.'

I appreciate that yet again we have many rules and procedure to follow for the children who are in school but for St Bernadette's to run safely and efficiently I ask for your support.

I also appreciate that those remaining at home are navigating many challenges. Please remember that you can only do your best in these troubled times.

Please take care everyone,

Alexis Satterthwaite

Head Teacher