



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Hurst Lane, Birmingham, B34 7HN
T: 0121 747 2782 | F: 0121 749 3004
www.grdangel.bham.sch.uk
enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk

Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and the other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm 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.

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. You should have received a text message, if you believe that you fall into one of these categories, please reply YES. We will then contact you, via telephone to discuss further details. If you have not received a text message, please contact the school office to check that your contact details are up to date.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March 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 message and on our school website.

Whilst school is closed, we will keep in touch with you in the following ways:

- The school website will be updated with any new information
- The text message service will be used to send short messages
- The weekly newsletter will continue with key information and notices. This is available on our school website. If you have signed up to the service, this is emailed directly to you.
- The schools Twitter account will be updated with any new information

Phone Calls Home

- If you receive support from social services, you will receive phone calls from a Designated Safeguarding Lead to speak **to you and your child twice per week** and where possible a home visit will take place.
- If your child has additional needs, whether this is a Special Educational Need or Pastoral need, you will receive phone calls from a member of staff in their class and/or our SENDCO Mrs Potter, to speak **to you and your child twice per week**.
- All other pupils will receive a phone call once every two weeks, to speak **to you and your child** ideally this will be from a member of staff in their class.
- These calls will be from the main school number or a NO CALLER ID number. Where possible, we will strive to send a text to alert you to the day of call.





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What we'll continue doing while your child is at home:

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn in the following ways:

- All pupils who were in school on Monday 16th March received a 'Home Learning' Pack in their school bag- if you did not receive this, please notify the class teacher or school office immediately
- If your child was absent on this day, packs have been posted to your recorded home address.
- Additional Home learning paper based activities have been given to your children today. Unfortunately, due to the high number of absences, these cannot be sent home for children not in school but they are available on the home page of our website.
- Attached is an additional copy of the Continuation of Learning letter that you received on Monday for your information and it is also available on the home page of our school website
- In addition to the tasks sent home, children now have access to a 'Year Group Tile' on BGFL365. This provides links to resources for classes to use.
- The school website has a wealth of resources and information such as:
 - *****Home Learning***** area
 - Knowledge organisers
 - Year group guides with full spelling lists and curriculum expectations.
 - POW projects and topic webs
 - Links to websites, suggested book lists and games

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

Until further notice, we will not be able to offer:

- School trips
- Breakfast or after-school clubs including booster sessions
- Any Events
- Internal exams or tests including Year 6 SATs

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with 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's far from ideal, but we'll 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 emailing enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk.

We anticipate that our limited telephone lines will be extremely busy over the next few days, so please **only contact the school office in an emergency.**

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](https://www.nhs.uk).
Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

May God bless you all

Mrs Helen Milligan (Head Teacher)

