



St Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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City of Westminster LA

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Thursday 31st January 2020

School Closures in Westminster

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that all of our families have had a safe and restful holiday so far.

Yesterday, the government announced that primary schools in COVID-19 'hot spots' would remain closed for all pupils except vulnerable children and children of key workers. Westminster was identified as one of those hot spots, consequently, **St Gabriel's will not be fully open to all pupils next week.** These measures are due to be in place until Monday 18th January 2021, but will be kept under review.

Consequently, we will open to those pupils identified as children of 'key workers/vulnerable pupils'. For all other remaining pupils, we will be operating remote learning using Google Classroom. **This will start from Tuesday 5th January 2021; Monday 4th January will remain as an INSET day.** On Monday we will provide further information to families on our remote learning. In the meantime, please refer to our Home Learning page on our website, to see what home learning will look like for your child.

I hope any questions can be answered below, but if you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to call school on Monday 4th January.

We no longer have a tablet or PC at home that works, how can my child access the learning?

We have a small number of Google Chrome books and internet enabled Tablets that we can loan to families for a period of 8 weeks. After 8 weeks, the devices need to be returned to school, but can be 'checked out' again.

My child has other brothers and sisters that also need to access the computer and so doesn't have enough time to complete work, how can they continue to learn?

Please contact school and we can loan your family a device.

What does my child complete the work on/in?

Your child should be able to complete work electronically via Google Classroom. However, if this is proving difficult, children also took home a lined and a squared book before October Half term, in case this situation should arise. If you require new exercise books, please contact school.



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



My child has free school meals, will we receive vouchers again?

The government are not providing vouchers during this period. However school will be providing hampers to enable parents to make lunches at home for their children. We will contact families on Monday, to see if you would like us to prepare these for you.

How do I know if my child is vulnerable and will be able to come to school?

We will contact those families of children identified as 'vulnerable' on Monday 4th January to notify you.

How do I know if I qualify as a key worker and can my child attend school?

Children of critical/key workers are able to attend school from Tuesday 5th January. In the case of 2 parent families, both parents need to be critical workers to qualify. Please see the list of professions below to see if you qualify as a key worker. If you would like your child(ren) to attend school, please notify the office by 12pm on Monday 4th January to enable us to plan for provision. Parents who are critical workers are those in the following professions:

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

If you have questions regarding your eligibility under the above criteria, you will be able to contact the school from Monday 4th January at 8.30am.

I look forward to welcoming all children back as soon as possible.

Best wishes for a happy and safe New Year,

Rebecca Anson
Headteacher.