



Update - 6th January 2021

Dear parents / carers

Thank you for your patience and understanding of the difficult position we are all experiencing currently.

Firstly, a huge thank you to the majority who can and have kept their children at home. If you can, please keep your children at home during this lockdown.

When I wrote to you yesterday, I communicated that the request for places at St. Peter's was much higher than anticipated. Whilst I appreciate that this is a difficult time for everyone, I must consider the amount of children and staff we have in school and try to minimize this where possible during this lockdown, to keep everyone safe and stop the transmission of this terrible virus.

If numbers of children in school, and therefore number of adults required in school, does not reduce, we may well have to prioritise, starting with number 1., using the following government ranked criteria. We also appreciate individual mitigating circumstances:

1. *Vulnerable children*
2. *Both parents are critical workers*
3. *One parent is a critical worker*
4. *One parent is a key worker but not Covid response*

We are urging you to consider only using the Critical Keyworker Provision if and when there is absolutely no other option. Please also take into consideration if you only require half a day of school support (eg shift patterns), where your child would only need to attend school for part of the day. This would be a great support to us as a school.

In the event of a confirmed positive case/s in school during lockdown

If we have a positive Covid case in school then this bubble will have to isolate at home, along with the staff, and access remote learning. Please, if your child is in school, make arrangements for this eventuality at a moment's notice.

Remote Learning

Please read our remote learning policy and expectations for home learning signposted yesterday and below. <https://www.eastbridgfordstpeters.co.uk/policies/> *click and scroll down*

The staff are continuing to all work incredibly hard and are putting the policy into action as we speak (a lot is already in place) with a mixture of all platforms mentioned in the policy. Obviously, with such short notice and having vulnerable and key worker children in school simultaneously this may take time.

RM, our IT school support provider, are also inundated by schools with requests for online, remote, live learning support with Microsoft Teams and RM Unify support.

If you are at home and trying to contact your child's class teacher they may well be with key worker children in school and cannot respond the same day, thank you for your consideration and patience.

The children in school are accessing the same work in school as those who are at home.

Communication

The (T2P) teachers to parents email/text message system crashed on Monday evening just after Boris Johnson's announcement, I think all schools were scrambling to respond to the news and inform parents of their plan. May I suggest you sign up to our school Twitter as this may be a future option to communicate our links and updates to you @StPetersEB Information and updates can also be found on our website on latest news documents <https://www.eastbridfordstpeters.co.uk/latest-news-documents/>

Nursery / before and after school provision

At this time, we are only offering places to vulnerable children /critical workers. The Department for Education have not released any documents yet and we still await answers to important questions, including regarding nursery children, meal vouchers, before/after school clubs, etc.

SATs

As of 2.20pm today, Gavin Williamson has announced SATs are cancelled in primary schools.

We are continuing to do our very best as a whole school team and as Head I cannot ask for more from the amazing St Peter's team.

Stay safe, stay protected, stay connected.
Take Care

Richard Tomlinson
Head