



<p>Mr. J. Shingler BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH Head Teacher</p>  <p>Archdiocese of Birmingham</p>	<p>St. Mary's Catholic Primary School office@st-marys-cannock.staffs.sch.uk headteacher@st-marys-cannock.staffs.sch.uk www.st-marys-cannock.staffs.sch.uk</p> <p><i>God is at the centre of our lives and as a school community we try to grow in love and care by following the example of Jesus</i></p>	
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Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Re:- St. Mary's opening or closing

At 5.15pm yesterday, the Secretary of State for Education gave a public statement that all state-funded schools in England would be closed from the end of the school day on Friday.

He also said that all the Phonics tests and SATs would be abandoned for this year.

Having indicated that all schools would be *closed*, he then indicated that they would be expected to remain *open* for the children of key workers and for those in various vulnerable categories - providing a safe place and access to meals. We are expecting a definition of 'key worker' at some point today after which I will seek to establish how many families are in one of his categories.

The Secretary of State gave no undertaking that schools would be expected to sustain a pattern of normal learning during the closure; rather that any available staff would be expected to support other frontline efforts.

Today and tomorrow I will be working to clarify what this announcement means for the school, for our pupils and for you.

Thank you for your support and please be assured that as I receive guidance I will seek to share it with you.

For today and tomorrow pupil attendance is expected to continue as normal within the COVID-19 Public Health England guidance.

May God bless and keep you all safe.

Mr J Shingler
Headteacher

