



**St Anthony's Catholic Primary Academy**

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Principal: Mrs T Davis

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7<sup>th</sup> January 2021,

Dear parents of children currently attending school,

We are currently providing on-site provision for over 100 pupils per day. In addition to this, we are receiving ongoing requests from parents who are presenting as critical workers. We are currently reviewing our risk assessment to ensure that we are maintaining safety of the school population whilst also doing our best to support you as parents within your crucial roles. This is in line with government guidance.

Many of you have previously provided us with supporting information from your employers to support your 'critical worker' status. I have recently requested this from some of you whom we do not have a record of this document from – please can you provide this as soon as possible in order to support your need for the place.

May I take this opportunity to emphasise that you must only use the provision when you are working. This may seem as though I am stating the obvious; however, I have been disappointed to learn that a child has attended when it was their parent's day off from work. We are under pressure in school with the number of devices available to support children's learning. Children should therefore NOT be present if you are not in work. Guidance says: '*Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.*' This means that (i) they should not be in school if you are not involved in work that day; (ii) they should not be in school if another parent could be looking after them.

We may find ourselves in a position whereby we have to prioritise critical workers to offer support to, should we find that we are overwhelmed. It is therefore essential that we have accurate details of your occupation – please do not be offended if we are seeking additional information, we just wish to provide an evidence base for why your child is in school.

We also want to protect you as a parent population. We have increased the waiting space available; however, it remains a concern to me that there are many of you who



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are not wearing masks. Of course, some of you may have exemptions. I aligned the start and end of the day for the classes in order to support you with travel to and from work, however, if overcrowding remains a concern then I may have to revert to the staggered timetable.

In order to ensure that we can prioritise children, you will need to return the survey form on a weekly basis. This will be sent every Thursday and is needed no later than the end of Friday.

Finally, whilst this has been a challenging week for us, your children have been excellent. They have needed to have patience and understanding as they have had to adapt yet again, alongside the staff, to a new way of learning. We have had issues with devices, connectivity, passwords – all the frustrations that those working at home will have also felt. However, they have been truly remarkable. We have praised them, please do the same.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T Davis  
(Head Teacher)



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