



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are all well and staying safe and we are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. We are also keeping in our prayers our families who have loved ones who are poorly at this time and we are praying especially for those of you who have been affected by sadness. We are very, very sorry for anyone who is in sadness or difficulty at this time and we promise we are all really thinking of you.

Following the Government's announcement this week that school's will go ahead and open, we are opening St Philip's next week to our Year 6 pupils and our children of key worker families. For next week **only**, year 6 children will come into school on **Tuesday to Thursday** and the following week the year 6 children will come into school Monday—Thursday. School will be open to key worker families Monday—Friday. Please ensure that you book a place on schoolcomms and do not just turn up at school on the day. If you are having trouble booking please email the school at office@st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk by Sunday 31st May.

On Monday 1st June, the key worker children will enter into school on Messenger Road and on Tuesday 2nd June, Year 6 children will enter into school through the KS2 entrance.

Coming back to school reminders:

- Please remember your child will be taught in small groups and in class bubbles and will be entering and exiting at different places and times.
- Because we have to teach the children in small groups, your child may not be with their class teacher all week in their class bubble.
- Children are to come to school in their uniform. I understand that we are in the second half of the summer term and your children have grown, so you might be missing some items of uniform. Please send your child/ren dressed in as close to uniform as possible and you do not need to buy any new items for the next few weeks.
- If your child is **NOT** a FSM child, please ensure you provide your child with a packed lunch from home for next week and we will keep you updated with any changes with school lunches.
- Please ensure that your child/ren have breakfast before they come into school as we cannot provide this and the breakfast club is not running.
- Please provide your child/ren with a water bottle and a snack for playtime .
- There is no need to send PE kits into school.
- We will provide your child's stationary in school, please do not send pencil cases in with your child.

Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation

I am sad to share that our children in year 3, year 5 and year 6 will not be making their First Communion and receiving the sacrament of Confirmation during the summer term as planned. After closely following the Diocese advice and talking with Fr Damian, the Archbishop Bernard Longley has shared that the sacraments will not take place and will be postponed. I will continue to keep you updated.

Class emails

Class emails have been set up for your children to be given direction for work and it would be lovely to see some of your examples of work/photographs that you could send us. The emails are the school name and the year group of your child.

We'll be in touch

Your child's class teacher will be making calls to you on a weekly basis to have a chat with you and your child/ren . I know that the staff will be looking forward to speaking with you and see how you and your families are and if there is anything we can help with.

Here to help

Nothing is more important than to ensure the happiness, well-being and academic progress of all children in our school. If you have a concern or worry, then please **DO NOT** let them build up. Please contact us by telephone and we will work hard to sort them out for you. You can call the school on 0121 558 1643 or email office@st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk and we will endeavour to help and support you.

Contact Details

If your contact details have changed since the new term started and are different to the details we have had on record, please ensure that you let us know of any new numbers and other information for us to contact you directly. During this time, our communication with you is limited by email or text. Please contact us using the office email address and we will update your information.

Homelearning

On the 1st June we will return to some more formal home learning, There is no expectation that your child will have to complete the whole pack/all work online, but we hope some of it will be useful. Teachers will continue to plan work/activities for your children at home and you can access these from the class emails sent to you from school and on our school website.

The excellent quality resource for daily online lessons for each year group funded by the Government – The content matches the National Curriculum and mirrors what your children have been taught at school so you can dip into lessons from both sites with confidence.

I enclose details and links to both websites below:

The National Academy

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/>

The Government has funded an excellent new online resource for all year groups where you can access 3 new lessons per day. It is easy to use and provides good quality lessons every day. We REALLY recommend using this excellent resource. Here's how to access it:

1. Go to thenational.academy
2. Select online classroom
3. Select your child's year group
4. Select the day of the week e.g. Monday
5. You will then find 3 very good quality daily lessons to work through every day of the week.

Another NEW excellent quality resource launched today from the BBC: BBC Bitesize Daily Lessons. The BBC is also providing three daily lessons for all year groups, every day of the week during school closures.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

1. Go to [bbc.co.uk/bitesize](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)
2. You should see Daily Lessons Are Here – click on start a lesson
3. Select your child's year group
4. You will then find 3 very good quality daily lessons to work through every day of the week.

We will continue to be in touch with you and keep you updated with changes and important information.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our children and families back to St Philip's School. I know that things will be very different for the children when we welcome them back on Monday, but please don't worry, there will be myself and plenty of staff to support you and your child.

Take care and God Bless

Learning and Working together through Christ