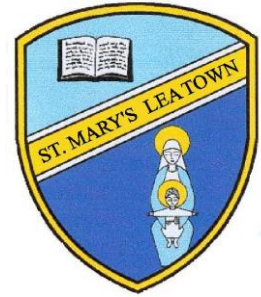


Head Teacher - Mrs A Brogden  
e-mail: [head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk)

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Darkinson Lane  
Lea Town  
Preston  
PR4 0RJ  
Tel: 01772 729881  
[www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk)



*'Happy are those who hear the word of  
God and keep it' Luke 11:28*

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I write to clarify the position in regard to St. Mary's and further school openings from next week. I have received a number of queries in regard to further school openings as Lancashire County Council have now advised that schools can consider offering further openings to specific year groups (Reception, Year one and Year 6. Priority to be given to Year R then 1, then 6).

Decisions have to be made at an individual school level. What works for one school will not necessarily work for another. I have to consider staffing ratios and the physical layout of the building to ensure we adhere to strict social distancing guidance which has not changed. As I shared on my original letter we also have to consider the well being of our pupils on balance with the academic gain. Comprehensive risk Assessments have been completed and evaluated, classrooms measured etc. and any decisions we make will always be driven by safety.

At present it remains that we are offering places to those pupils who are deemed as vulnerable and those children of key workers only. We can safely offer ten places per day. Places are booked each Friday for the following week and we can only book a week at a time for fairness. Evidence of shifts patterns/ ratios must be emailed every week to secure places and will only be accepted on a Friday.

The Pupils in school do not receive any different or additional learning but access the same online learning under the 'Pupils' tab on our school website. This learning is updated weekly.

I understand many of our families have shared concerns that pupils may academically fall behind and of course we will always endeavor to support all pupils. If you feel we can help with a particular question/ query please feel free to email staff and/ or myself.

When pupils return to school, staff will assess pupils carefully, identify gaps in learning and as ever provide differentiated, focused learning. The Government have shared today in the media that they intend to also provide additional funding to school to facilitate this and, once school receive information/ clarity, we will share details with our families.

Our focus upon return will be the well being of our pupils helping them to process the enormity of the situation we have found ourselves in and reflecting on the impact this had had and will continue to have moving forward. Particular focus and attention will be given to this as a matter of priority. I will keep you updated as I am able to.

Advice changes regularly and as such I continue to review and evaluate. Please be assured that I will always keep you fully informed as and when I have further information as to any changes for the remaining term time and indeed from September.

Once again, we thank you for your continued support and we will always work in partnership with you.

Kind Regards

Mrs. A. Brogden  
Head Teacher