



Longton Hall Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 2NJ  
Tel: 01782 882900 | Email: [office@stmca.org.uk](mailto:office@stmca.org.uk) | [www.stmca.org.uk](http://www.stmca.org.uk) | @StThomasMoreCA  
Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Key Workers / Partial Closure

Unfortunately, it will be necessary to have a partial closure on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March for **year11 and year 13 students**. Year 13 students may come into school in order to complete their EPQ. Year 11 students need to focus on completing any outstanding coursework. Mrs Todd and Mrs Bradbury are the best staff to contact via email if you have any further questions.

As you know as a result of the Government's announcement we will be closed from the end of today 'until further notice' for most pupils except:

- those of 'key workers' – this is detailed below
- Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

Children of 'key workers' and 'vulnerable children' should contact the school by today, **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am on 01782 882900 or email [office@stmca.org.uk](mailto:office@stmca.org.uk)** if you believe you fall into these categories.

## Key Workers Definition:

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.





Longton Hall Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 2NJ

Tel: 01782 882900 | Email: [office@stmca.org.uk](mailto:office@stmca.org.uk) | [www.stmca.org.uk](http://www.stmca.org.uk) | [@StThomasMoreCA](https://twitter.com/StThomasMoreCA)

Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then contact school by 10.00am.

## Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

## Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

## Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

## Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

## Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

## Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.





Longton Hall Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 2NJ  
Tel: 01782 882900 | Email: [office@stmca.org.uk](mailto:office@stmca.org.uk) | [www.stmca.org.uk](http://www.stmca.org.uk) | @StThomasMoreCA  
Headteacher: Mr M Rayner BA(Hons) NPQH

## Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

## Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If you think you fall within the critical categories above you should confirm with the school by 10.00am. A further letter with details of the arrangements for next week will be sent to those relevant families.

We pray for everyone effected by this pandemic.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Rayner  
Headteacher

