

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continuing support in these unprecedented times. I would like to share some more updates with you.

### Key Worker Children

Our schools are closing today for all pupils apart from vulnerable children and children of key workers. The Government published its guidance on provision for key workers today and you can view it here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

I would like to remind parents that the Government advice states:

*'the most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.*

We are committed to supporting key workers in being able to continue working but have limited capacity in all of our schools and so would like to reserve this provision for children who cannot safely be cared for at home. In addition, we have a responsibility to our staff to minimise the risk of them becoming infected.

### Prayer resources

This may be a long period of absence from school and in order to support our children and young adults spiritually, I would like to direct you and them to some online prayer resources:

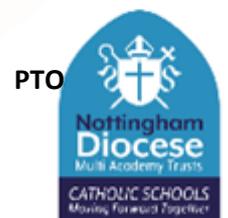
The Trust's 'beinspirational' website <https://www.beinspirational.co.uk/sections/trust/>

The NDCYS also is offering prayer resources via its website and Youtube channel.

[www.NDCYS.com/live](http://www.NDCYS.com/live)     [www.YouTube.com/ndcyslive](http://www.YouTube.com/ndcyslive)

### Free school meals

If you have a child who receives free school meals, they should go to the school on Monday to access this provision. From Monday, the free school meal provision will move to a voucher system. Parents will be able collect ASDA vouchers from the school on Monday afternoon. If they are not collected on Monday, they will be posted out to your home address.



### GCSEs / A-Levels / SATs

The Government has conformed that SATs, GCSEs and A-Levels have been cancelled for this academic year. They have said that pupils will be awarded qualifications in August. AS yet, we do not have any further details about how they will do this.

We will continue to follow Government guidance and will keep in touch with you as the situation develops. Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times.

We continue to pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus around the world.

Yours sincerely



**James McGeachie**  
CEO, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

