



# Saint Edmund's and Saint Thomas' Catholic Primary School

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9th June 2020

Dear Parents,

## CORONA VIRUS UPDATE 16

### Sefton Local Authority Delayed Opening

You have received a letter from Sefton Local Authority today recommending a delayed wider opening of schools now from 22<sup>nd</sup> June instead of the proposed 15<sup>th</sup> June.

School will follow this recommendation due to the R infection rates and therefore we will only be admitting vulnerable and key worker children who have regularly been attending over the last two months. Any new Key Worker children who were expecting to return on 15<sup>th</sup> will only be considered for return from 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020.

At this point, I will tell you that the result of a very thorough risk assessment carried out by external consultants last week has determined that school is only able to offer a maximum number of 63 places for a wider reopening now on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. This is due to limitations of the school building and the necessity to observe two metre social distancing guidelines set out by the Department for Education.

We can currently only offer places to children in the prioritised categories of Vulnerable children and those with an EHCP Education Health Care Plan and the children of **some** Key Workers. **There will be no offer of places to other 'non- key worker' children in the proposed year groups of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.** This might come as a disappointment to you but you also may be very concerned the new infection information from Sefton. The programme of remote learning will still be going ahead and will be managed full-time by three teaching staff.

However, it needs to be stated that the actual demand for places from key worker children exceeded the school's revised capacity of 63, so it will be applying the following criteria for key worker children after vulnerable groups have been considered:

- (i) A place shall be given due consideration to a key worker who has taken advantage of the service from the start of partial school closure 23/03 onwards
- (ii) Key workers' responses to surveys 1 and 2 will be accounted for in any decision
- (iii) Part-time use of a key worker during closure will not affect consideration of an offer of a place
- (iv) Late applications and communications from parents for key worker places will be considered as post deadline requests

If you learn that you are a key worker and that school cannot offer you a place then Sefton Local Authority may be able to assist you in gaining a temporary school place in another school

We will be contacting some parents early next week to offer a place which will require an instant response. You will then receive a booklet from school with all the important details regarding reopening. Failure to attend on the first day will result in our offer being rescinded and the place being offered to another child.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kieran A Loftus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Kieran A Loftus