



Annex Version 1

## **Covid-19 Annex to St Mary's Catholic Primary Attendance Policy**

The Government states that *"Eligible children – including priority groups – are strongly encouraged to attend their education setting, unless they are self-isolating or they are clinically vulnerable"*.

The welfare and safety of our pupils and staff remain paramount. We understand that this transition period of pupils returning to school will be difficult for all. Whilst children return, we will be following strict hygiene measures and consistent groups to reduce the rate of transmission of Covid-19. Further guidance for parents/carers can be found GOV.UK *Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June: guidance for parents and carers.*

### **Communication**

School will still try to contact you regarding whether you will be sending your child or not. *(Schools have a 'duty of care' to ensure the safety and well-being of all children on roll.)*

School will communicate with parents/carer if your child is in an eligible or vulnerable group to see whether your child will be attending. **Please help us by ensuring school has up to date contact details and emergency numbers.**

You should notify school if your child is unable to attend school as early as possible. School will continue to follow up with any parent or carer whose child has been expected to attend and subsequently does not.

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding children remains a priority. If school are concerned or unable to establish contact with parent/carer our Attendance Support Officer may try to establish contact via a safe and well visit or other means of communication. School will continue to inform Social Workers where children with a Social Worker do not attend.

### **Attendance**

The eligible groups to attend currently are children of Key Workers, Vulnerable Children and Year 6.



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We are here to support you and your child in the transition to returning to school and understand this can be a worrying time for all. If you have any concerns or your child is worried please contact school to discuss such barriers.

If your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms, please **do not** send them into school. You should inform school about the reason for absence and contact the relevant medical establishment for advice.

We would not expect you to send your child if they or someone in your household is extremely clinically vulnerable. They should have received a letter advising them to shield or have been told by their GP or hospital clinician (refer to GOV.UK guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from Covid-19)

Children should only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered to, and the child is able to understand and follow those instructions.

Parents will **not** be fined for non-attendance at this time however school still have a duty to contact parents/carers about absence and will continue to follow up any welfare or safeguarding concerns.

## **Registers**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of June School must submit a daily return to the Government and registers are to be marked for pupils eligible and not eligible to attend.

- X – if a child is **not eligible** to attend and do not fall into the key groups/advised year groups to return.
- Y – eligible to attend but self-shielding
- I or M – eligible to attend but are ill or have a medical appointment
- C – not attending but eligible to attend
- D – at a PRU
- B – host school on a temporary basis e.g. If their home school cannot accommodate them

Date of Review: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Date of Next Review: Sept 2020