

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead CH43 5UT

Headteacher: Mr A. Turner



Dear Parents,

I write with further information about plans to extend the opening of our school. Today we have learned that the Directors of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust (HFCMAT) have decided that **we will not open our school on 1st June** for Nursery, Reception, Year One and Year Six.

This is in line with guidance from our Local Authority & Diocese. The reason for this is that we do not have sufficient evidence to ensure that risks could be managed effectively if we return at this time.

For the last two weeks, we have been devising plans for extending our opening to specific year groups, ensuring we can mitigate risks. These will be reviewed and refined after half term. We anticipate extending our opening from 15th June at the earliest. Pupils will return to school in stages in the following weeks: initially Y6, then Foundation Stage and last, Y1. This will be subject to safe staffing levels, the supply of essential resources and the scientific evidence available.

We will use the time from 1st June to train our staff, implement action plans for as safe an opening as we can reasonably manage and provide reassurance to you.

Our school has been open for childcare since 23rd March and we will continue to offer this to the children of our key workers and vulnerable children. Home learning will continue to be offered.

We will endeavour to keep you informed of our plans and write to you by Wednesday 11th June to advise you of our decision to extend the opening of the school.

Thank you for your support over the past weeks. Your messages of thanks and support are very much appreciated by the staff who have worked tirelessly in these unprecedented times. This week is mental health awareness week and now, more than ever, we need to look after each other.

On our Coronavirus webpage, we have added some activity packs created by working in partnership with our family of schools. I hope the packs will be of use to you over the coming weeks.

We continue to miss all the children and look forward to the day we can see them again. In the meantime, thank you for being such a wonderful community, thank you for your support and we wish you all the best

Mr Turner.