

29 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Reopening of School

Thank you for confirming that your son/ daughter who falls within the following category will not be attending school from the 15th June;

1. Parent is a key worker and/or;
2. Your son or daughter is on the vulnerable list and/or;
3. Your child is in year 10 or year 12

We understand you will not have made this decision lightly and you may decide to change your mind in light of government guidance.

Please also be assured that we are doing everything we possibly can to implement safety measures outlined in the guidance to ensure that our provision is a safe one with effective protective measures. Over the coming weeks, we'll be finalizing a detailed plan to make sure we can safely welcome these year groups back, if it's safe for us to start the phased reopening of the school then. Precautions we'll be taking include:

- Limiting class sizes
- Staggering break times, and pick-up and drop-off times
- Increased cleaning
- Keeping pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home

The health and safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and parents are of paramount importance. We are doing our best to ensure that your child's experience at school meets their academic and mental health needs, whilst ensuring health and safety expectations are appropriately planned for and adhered to by the entire St Marks family.

Should you wish to send your child back to the Academy to access face to face support please do not send your them into school unless this has been approved. To seek approval please email Mr Hampton at lhampton@stmarksacademy.org.uk. You will receive written confirmation from Mr Hampton or a member of the leadership team to confirm your child's start date. I would strongly recommend you take some time to read the [latest government updates](#) and also the role you perform as parents to best support your child at school.

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable, or living with someone who is in this group, they should not come back to school and should continue home learning. If your child is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), you should follow medical advice to decide if they should come back to school. Please refer to [government guidance](#) for further details of these groups.

Principal Lisa Peterkin

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for continuing to support your child with their home learning experience. The aims of this provision is to equip your son or daughter with important knowledge and skills, such as; daughters;

- Important knowledge for subjects they study
- Enhance key skills such as time management and independent learning
- Increase use of virtual formats to aid educational learning

We really welcome your feedback so please continue to use the home learning email for any queries, we have dedicated senior leaders responding to this regularly during the school week. I would like to continue to stress the importance of your child engaging with home learning whilst ensuring safety and mental health and wellbeing are of utmost importance.

Please be reminded that in the meantime, the school is still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. Until we're told it's safe to do so, we're unable to provide places for other children.

I appreciate the challenges of the international pandemic and ask that you continue to take time to stay safe and be well, please feel free to visit our [health & well-being page](#) to support you and your families during these challenging times.

With Love, Hope and Trust

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Peterkin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa Peterkin
Principal