



ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

6th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will appreciate it is a significant logistical challenge to relocate all our pupils and despite having robust emergency plans in place this situation is unprecedented. This has really been such a challenging week for us all. We have indeed, as always, risen to the challenge together as a united front.

As you know the school building is out of use whilst we put safety measures in place. We are still unable to access the school building as a school community. Unfortunately, as you know school could not re-open as normal on Tuesday and we have provided virtual learning materials on the days we could not provide face-to-face learning.

We have successfully secured alternative premises in order to provide face-to-face learning to all of our children and discontinue virtual learning, which would cause such disruption to our children, who we all know are still recovering from the virtual classrooms of C19.

The plan is as follows:

Reception Class will be situated within St James Church in their Emmaeus room.

Years 1 – 4 will be taught in a small section of Classrooms at St Joseph's Catholic Academy. Classrooms have been kept as close together as possible.

Years 5 and 6 will be taught at St Aloysius Junior School.

**ALL CHILDREN WILL START THEIR PROVISION TOMORROW – THURSDAY 7 TH
SEPTEMBER 2023**

We would like to thank our friends and colleagues at our Trust schools and wonderful parishioners for accommodating us at such very short notice and for welcoming us with open arms. Our gratitude is immeasurable.

We would also like to thank our colleagues at BCCET for acknowledging the magnitude of this task and for standing firmly by our side throughout. In addition, the greatest thanks of all goes to

Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher
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our parents, families and our wonderful children for supporting us, understanding our situation and sending positive messages to myself and the staff as we've navigated ourselves in what has been an unbelievably hard task.

The Department for Education will be supporting us throughout and will also be assisting with longer-term remediation measures so that we can bring all pupils back into St James school once we are fully confident it is safe to do so.

We have still not secured alternative telephone arrangements – we are working hard to get this rectified. If you do have any queries, we would ask that you please contact info@stjameshebburn.co.uk and we will be able to help. Mrs Snaith will be based at St Aloysius school from 8:30 – 10:30am each morning as a face-to-face point of contact for our Year 5 and 6 parents and carers. Mrs Gillis will be available at St James church where our R-Y4 children will have their drop off point as a face-to-face contact between 8:30pm and 10:30pm and again at 3:00 – 4:00pm. Administration staff will work within the main buildings between these times and will be available via email.

We have attached a frequently asked questions sheet which we hope will cover any questions that you may have regarding the above plan. However, if you have any further queries please contact us via email.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Francesca
Heslop Headteacher

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