



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

"Shine as to be a light to others"



Headteacher: Mrs C. Dickinson

21st March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus Update

We will be **closed to most children from Monday 23rd March**, until further notice. The exception to this is those children whose parents and carers have registered with the school as key workers or they have certain needs.

Free School Meals

During this closure, we are offering a limited food service (packed lunches) for our children who qualify for Free School Meals (FSMs) and who normally receive them (this does not include Universal FSM). These packed lunches can be collected from school daily between 11:30am – 12:30pm.

Separate Letters

We have written separately to parents and carers of children who are key workers, have certain needs and/or receive Free School Meals.

Home Learning

Each child received a Home Learning Pack, last Friday 13th March. It contained Home Learning for five days in addition to a Learning Log project. Each pack contained an overview of what is expected.

On Monday 23rd March, between 9 – 9.30am, each child's parent and carer will be emailed a 'Learning Project' information sheet which contains materials and links to support your child's learning at home for the week. This will continue each Monday morning until notified otherwise.

School Website

Information and updates in relation to government guidance, childcare and home learning can be found on the home page of our website. We will use this area as a main area of communication in addition to emails and texting. Please check this regularly.

Support for our Families

School closure will put added pressure on you as a family. If you feel you need extra support, please get in touch with us. We will find a way to help you directly or signpost you to the appropriate service. You can email us on communication@oratory.bham.sch.uk

Useful Websites



Food Banks: <https://www.findfoodbanksbrum.org.uk/>



Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Services: <https://the-waitingroom.org/>



NHS Anxiety Support : https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/anxiety/?WT.tsrc=Search&WT.mc_id=Anxiety&gclid=EAlaIqObChMI2Pie2Yiq6AIVhb



How to keep your child safe online and offline: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Top Tips for Online safety

- Please check the safety and control settings on electronic devices with your son/daughter. It is important that all children are safe whilst being reliant on electronic devices.
- Ensure you use the privacy settings, parental controls and built in internet safety features provided by the major internet service providers. www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controlsoffered-your-home-internet-provider
- For parents and carers experiencing any internet safety issues with their children, Parent Zone provides a national helpline service at help@theparentzone.co.uk

Safeguarding

If you become concerned about your child's safety or another child, please contact Mrs Dickinson (Lead DSL during school closure) immediately via email c.dickinson@oratory.bham.sch.uk or if you have any safeguarding concerns about a child out of school hours, please call Birmingham Children's Advice and Support Services on 0121 303 1888.

The Birmingham Oratory Church

The Oratory Church will be open for private prayer 7 days a week, from 9am to 6pm. Please take care to observe guidance on social distancing and hygiene when visiting. A confessor will be available at all times while the church is open.

There will be no Masses or other public acts of worship of any sort within the church until further notice. The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days has been suspended. **When visiting the church and praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament, you are invited to make an act of spiritual communion.** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays between 2pm and 6pm (without Benediction).

Live Streaming

Masses celebrated in private will be live streamed every day, starting this Saturday. **Please note that these Masses will take place in the Fathers' house chapel, and may not be attended** in person.

- 9am – Low Mass (Latin, EF)
- 11am – Low Mass (English)
- 6pm – Rosary and Act of Spiritual Communion

On Sundays at 6pm, the Fathers will sing Vespers simply and in private. This will be available by live stream in place of the Rosary.

Live streams can be accessed via our website: www.birminghamoratory.org.uk/live-stream/

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this unique and challenging time. Please take good care of yourselves and those in our local community.

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'C. Dick'.

Mrs C Dickinson
Head Teacher