

4 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### School closure with immediate effect

Further to this evening's announcement from the Prime Minister, I regret to inform you that all schools in the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic MAT, including your child's school, will be closed with immediate effect to all pupils other than those the school recognises as vulnerable, and the children of critical workers.

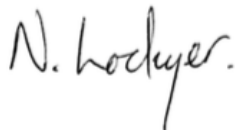
This comes into effect from Tuesday 5 January. The full list of those occupations considered by the government to be "critical" can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>.

As was the case from March of last year, we will now focus all of our efforts on providing high quality remote education including live teaching, narrated presentations and a range of resources and assessments. In addition, members of staff will be in contact with your child and/or you during the period of this lockdown. Should you require any further information or have any questions, please contact your child's school.

With the vaccine now slowly rolling out across the country, we hope that this period of school closure will at least be much shorter than the last one. From this evening's announcement, it seems that we may be reopening after half term in February; more to follow on this I am sure.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support.

Yours sincerely



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