

**ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND
(Aided) PRIMARY SCHOOL**

FOUNDED 1789



EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER:
Ms Helen Comfort
(B.A.Ed.Hons, NPQH)

ACTING HEAD OF SCHOOL:
Mrs Alison Trefler
(B.Ed. Hons)

Laureston Place
Dover, Kent, CT16 1QX
Telephone: (01304) 206887
Fax: (01304) 205152
email: office@stmarysprimary.net
www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk

'Learning for life with God as our guide'

Sunday, 3rd January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

Term 3 2021

I am sure you will be aware of Government announcements made late last week regarding the re-opening of schools for Term 3.

You may be aware that most of the primary schools in Kent will be closed for the next two weeks. Schools in Dover and three other districts in Kent, however, have been directed to fully re-open.

At the end of last week and over the weekend – including today – there have been meetings within Kent County Council and with Trade Unions about this decision. I have also been in contact with many Kent Headteachers and of course our school staff.

As Trade Union meetings have been ongoing it has taken until this afternoon for me to be able to write to you to confirm that school **will be fully open on Monday, 4th January**. I know that further local and national Governmental meetings are scheduled for the beginning of the week so matters may be subject to change; I will notify you when I know of any changes that will affect you.

The Department for Education has not produced any further control measures to use with the new variant of Covid so we will continue with the measures we had in place in the Autumn term – rooms will be ventilated with windows open, hand and respiratory hygiene will continue to be a high priority. Staff or children with symptoms of Covid, or who live with people with symptoms of Covid, will not attend school etc.

A number of parents have contacted me in the last few days to say they are anxious and will not be sending their children back to school; I understand these anxieties and respect these decisions. I will continue to take a flexible approach to school attendance during these times. Home learning for all classes will be available on our school website. Completed work should be emailed daily to the class teacher. Please inform the school office in the usual way if your child will be absent from school.

I continue to be proud of all members of our school community for the way they have pulled together during these challenging times. Please do all that you can to keep everyone safe by following the Government rules.

I will let you know, as soon as I can, if circumstances change.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Comfort
Executive Headteacher