



St. Peter's Catholic Primary School



School Closure
Information for Parents

“In the Department’s view, essential travel includes pupils going to school to keep learning and school staff going to work. The Department is confident that headteachers and parents will support this” – Department for Education

At St. Peter’s we endeavour to keep the school open if at all possible, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. The decision to close the school or restrict attendance is taken by the Executive Headteacher & Head of School or the most senior member of teaching staff in their absence.

There is a legal requirement to keep school open for children to attend for 190 days per year (380 sessions). However schools may close due to “unavoidable” circumstances, which are usually health and safety reasons. Unavoidable circumstances are those that mean it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be **on site**. The government has stressed the importance of schools remaining open, wherever possible, as closures have a knock-on effect on parents/carers who are key workers in other areas of the public sector, e.g. Health Services, thus undermining crucial service delivery.

So whilst we have heating, running water and staff it will be ‘business as usual’. However, we would not wish parents to place themselves or their children at risk whilst attempting to get to school if conditions are treacherous.

If your child is going to be absent please ensure you notify school in the normal way, either by email to absence@st-peters-sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk or by calling school and leaving a message on our absence line.

Communication of School Closure



In the unlikely event of school closure our text service will be used to alert parents to the initial closure and any subsequent changes. Please note our text service takes information from our pupil database, provided by parents and guardians. If you have changed your mobile numbers please inform the office staff via email (admin@st-peters-sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk) to ensure our database is kept up to date. This service does **not** accept incoming texts.

Additionally, announcements will be made on the following local radio stations:

- BBC Radio Kent (96.7, 97.6 & 104.2 FM & DAB)
- Heart FM (formerly Invicta Radio) (103.1 & 102.8)
- KMFM (107.9 – 100.4 FM)



A notice will be posted on the front page of our website www.st-peters-sittingbourne.co.uk.



We will also use our Twitter account to broadcast any closure. If you are registered with Twitter you can follow us @StPetersPrimary. We protect our tweets so you will need to be accepted by the school before following us. Please click on the link on our website for more information or visit www.twitter.com.

Useful Information:

School Website Address: www.st-peters-sittingbourne.co.uk

School email address: admin@st-peters-sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

School Telephone Number: 01795 423479

Radio Stations:

- BBC Radio Kent (96.7, 97.6 & 104.2 FM & DAB)
- Heart FM (formerly Invicta Radio) (103.1 & 102.8)
- KMFM (107.9 – 100.4 FM)

Absence email address: absence@st-peters-sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

School Twitter Account: @StPetersPrimary