

St. Michael's Church of England (VA) Junior School

By God's Love, we all flourish together

Barnard Road Galleywood Chelmsford Essex CM2 8RR

Telephone: (01245) 472682  [stmichaels.junior](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaels.junior)

Email: admin@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Rowen Prigg BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Dines BA (Hons)



St. Michael's CE (VA) Junior School

23rd April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

MERSEA 2020-21 VISIT

We are deeply disappointed to inform you that we have taken the decision today not to run the Mersea residential visit for Year 4.

This decision has not been taken lightly. We originally rescheduled last year's visit to 30th June, hoping that by then restrictions would have been removed for school residential and that the risk of Covid infections would be minimal. However, we have still not received updated guidance regarding residential trips and are still uncertain whether the risk to a member of staff or student, whilst on the trip has been fully eliminated. The only guidance we have had from the DfE to date is:

"Domestic Residential Educational Visits

In line with the roadmap, we advise against domestic residential educational visits until at least step 3, no earlier than 17 May.

The roadmap is driven by data not dates. The approach to domestic residential visits is dependent on the roadmap and is subject to change."

We cannot at this point be entirely certain that sufficient controls are in place or that the children would have the experience this year that they would have had at Mersea before the Pandemic. We have been informed that although bubbles would be in operation during our visit, four other schools would be resident at the same time as St Michael's. We have therefore taken the decision not to go ahead this year.

We are all incredibly upset that this decision has had to be taken, as we would have been delighted to resume residential trips again this year. We do however feel that this is the right decision to make in the current circumstances and trust that you will understand.

Yours sincerely,

Rowen Prigg

Headteacher

