



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parent

We contacted you on Wednesday to inform you of the government's decision yesterday to close schools from Friday 20th March for the majority of pupils.

"The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

**That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for "those children who absolutely need to attend."**

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Final confirmation of key workers has now been received.

The Government's state "If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision":

- Health and social care
- Education and child care
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

Further detail within each of these categories 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>

Children in care, with an EHCP or a social worker are considered to be vulnerable, however there may be some degree of flexibility to manage individual circumstances.

We are ready to continue to provide child care for the children of key workers or those who are vulnerable from now on, including all holiday periods.

As made clear within the government guidance and to keep our staff safe, we need to keep the number of children attending to a minimum and will need to prioritise those families where **both parents/carers are key workers or where the sole parent is a key worker**. To help us assess the level of support we need to provide, if you are a key worker please could you complete the online survey by 12 noon today. You will need to copy and paste this link into your browser bar.

<https://forms.gle/2ZZ1FdrUrzTyvpcA7>

We are doing everything possible to be open on Monday morning as usual from 7.45 am to 4.30 pm for the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils. Breakfast Club will be provided free of charge to children attending.

Children do not need to attend in school uniform but we ask that, to minimise the risk of contamination, children attend wearing freshly washed clothes each day. We will be using our outdoor area so please send your child with a coat and wellington boots. As we have not yet been able to confirm catering arrangements, please send your child with a packed lunch on Monday.

If we are able to offer you a child care place we will contact you to confirm arrangements; **please do not bring your child to school until you have been contacted to confirm a place.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jo Knuckey  
Headteacher



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