



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus Update – School Closure / Open for child care

Again, thank you for your positive feedback and support for the staff in these very difficult times.

Schools have been closed as part of the government's strategy to stop this virus spreading and save lives. Schools have been asked to remain open to care **only** for vulnerable children and the children of parents who work in critical jobs, as defined by the government. Our school will open with a limited number of staff on site to enable us to support and care for these children safely. All other staff will be working at home and all other children should remain at home to enable social distancing and help reduce the risk of the spread of Covid-19.

If you are unsure if your job is critical, you should ask your employer to confirm this so that you can confirm this to us. Please also note the following points from the Government's Guidance:

"Many parents working in these [critical] sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.***
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*
- 3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.*
- 4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults."*

Child care arrangements on the school premises from Monday 23rd March

For those children that the school has confirmed eligible, provision will be made available: either on the school site or at another local school. The arrangements for this provision will be flexible according to staffing availability. Each day may have different staff on duty and it could even change during the day depending on the nature of this emergency situation.

Current arrangements:

- Staff will not be authorised to administer any medical provisions except for first aid and emergency first aid.
- Children do not need to wear school uniform.
- Children will need a packed lunch or they can have a school meal. There will be one option for the school meal per day; for children not eligible for FSM meals will need to be paid for - £2.30 in cash on the day.
- Children will need a water bottle.
- Children will need appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear.

Thanks again for your continued support, keep safe and continue to follow Public Health England's guidance around the coronavirus.

Paul Sutton

Executive Headteacher