

Dear Parents,

Re Coronavirus update – school closure.

Following on from my last update, I'm writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday 20th March until further notice.** Please note that this is a national closure so whilst it is a challenging situation, we are not alone.

As advised by the Government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, emergency services and children with certain needs. A full list of keyworkers will be circulated by the Cabinet Office today). As they publish more information, it would help us if you could let us know via an email to the school office if you think your child falls into one of these categories. Please explain your role and if you are the sole carer for your children at home in your email.

It is unclear at present whether every school will remain open or there will be a central hub. Please note, even with very low numbers in school, maintaining even a skeleton staff to work with this group of children will be challenging for individual schools.

As Head teachers we still have more questions than answers, which we are actively pursuing with the Government.

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops. We want to do all we can to support the work of the keyworker's services at this time and please know that we, along with the whole country, owe you a debt of gratitude and continue to hold you in the highest of admiration. Our thoughts and prayers are with all.

Please remember; if your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS111 online.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

What we will continue doing while your child is at home.

As communicated yesterday, your child's learning is very important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn via the home learning being sent out by each individual class.

Thank you again for your continued support, we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Keep well

Julia Pearce