

NHS and Key Workers

20 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for working with us through this period so far and for all the messages of support that have been received. As you know all schools will close from Friday 20/3/20 until further notice.

We will be providing emergency childcare, from Monday 23.3.20 for the most vulnerable and the children of NHS and other key workers. Parents should use this service only when they need to for instance; because they are at work and have no other suitable adult available to care for them. If your partner is not a key worker, as outlined in the government guidelines, we would expect you to arrange care for your child while you are at work. We fully expect those families who have another parent/carer in the household who is not a key worker to manage childcare at home and not send their child to school, putting the child and others at risk.

Wherever possible, children should not attend school, as this will increase the risk of the virus spreading to the most vulnerable in society and increase the risk to school staff and their families.

If you fit into the categories outlined by the government, please complete our online form so that you can indicate the time you need your child to be in school. Please complete this by 9am Monday 23rd March for this week only.

Completing this form will effectively be an application form for emergency childcare. If you have submitted an application for the week commencing Monday 23rd March, please send your child to school on Monday at 9.00am. We will confirm arrangements for the week. Children are expected to wear their school uniform or school PE kit so that they are identifiable at school. The school day will run from 9.00am until 3.00pm.

We will post the form on line for the commencing week so that we can staff accordingly. This will need completing by 9am each Friday for the following week.

Going forward We will assess the numbers of children needing this childcare and then inform parents/carers of future plans as the situation develops. This might be shared across the MAT, all services are subject to availability, safeguarding and changing circumstances.

It is essential that only those children who qualify as vulnerable children or those of key workers with no other childcare options, are in school. Parents/carers have a social

responsibility to be honest and work closely with us to follow government instructions carefully, minimise social contact and not put lives at risk.

No child or member of staff should attend any school site if they are showing Coronavirus Symptoms or are sharing a house with someone who is showing symptoms/self-isolating. Please follow government guidelines on self-isolation - ie symptom free for at least 14 days.

The provision at all schools from Monday 23rd will be childcare with access to our online learning activities. The best way for your child to access structured learning on a daily basis will be to home tutor your child using the school websites and tools being produced by the school on a regular basis.

I want to assure you that school leaders are doing everything they can to safeguard children and staff, react to daily challenges, follow government guidelines and keep schools open to provide emergency childcare. We will inform you of any changes to this plan.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr M Cox', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr M Cox
Headteacher