

Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus school closure update

Overnight, the Government has issued further guidance on school closures and pupils who may be eligible for care.

Guidance states:

“...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.**

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But **the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.**

Schools are, therefore, being asked 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.**”

Vulnerable Pupils

We are currently in the process of contacting parents of children who we consider meet the vulnerable criteria. Places are limited and will be prioritised according to need.

Pupils of “key workers”

“Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. **Many parents working in these 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.**”

Key public sectors:

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

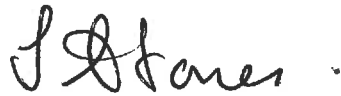
Full details can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If you are a key worker and think you may be eligible for a place, please notify school. Once we have an email address, we will send you a quick Survey Monkey application form to complete today.

School will let you know if your child has a place. But once again, we must stress, this is only if they cannot be safely cared for at home.

Please look after each other and take care. We look forward to welcoming all our children back to school when we are advised it is safe to do so. We will continue to stay in touch via text, our school website and Classdojo until school reopens.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J A Jones', with a small dot at the end.

Mr J A Jones
Headteacher