



19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the updated information provided by the Government yesterday evening, all schools will close from the end of tomorrow (Friday 20 March 2020).

The information also stated that no external exams will take place in May or June this year. At present, we are unclear what the alternative will be. The Government has stated that students will not be disadvantaged in any way.

We are now working on plans to keep the school open from Monday 23 March 2020 for the students specified by the Government. This was defined as:

- Students with social workers
- Students with an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan)
- Students who are the children of parents/carers who are key workers (examples given were NHS staff, police and delivery drivers). **For this group, the provision will be available for children of single parents/carers who are key workers or for students where both parents/carers are key workers and there is no alternative childcare available. In situations where one parent is a key worker and one is not, it is expected that the non-key worker will care for their child/children at home.**

In these unprecedented circumstances, only a small number of staff will be available to supervise students, as staff will also need to minimise risks to themselves and their own families.

In order to support us in preparing a plan, please can parents/carers complete the questionnaire that was sent out this morning and advise the school if you are a key worker. The link can be found [here](#).

We will need to know the number of students who will be in school in order to make appropriate contingency plans, therefore we **require a response by 5:00pm, Thursday 19 March 2020. Please email only if you fall into the specified categories and are intending to send your child in to school from Monday.**

The Government has not yet provided a definition of a key worker and therefore by providing us with the details requested above we will be able to check against the criteria once we receive it.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to teach normal lessons. These children will be supervised by a member of staff (teaching or support) and will access the same materials for self-study as those working at home. It is also important to note that if you request for your child to attend, there is an expectation that your child will attend every day during the closure period.

Further information will be sent later today or tomorrow regarding work that will be provided to all students during the school closure.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this challenging time for us all.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Plester
Headteacher