

Thursday 19th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, we are all facing extraordinary challenges and the situation is placing pressure on all parts of society. Our staff have been doing all they can to keep our school open since this crisis began and I would like to pay tribute to their remarkable commitment, they have been extraordinary and I know they will want to continue to play their part over the coming weeks.

As you may be aware, the Government made several very important decisions yesterday evening (18th March) about schools. There will be further detail to follow but I wanted to ensure you had as much information as early as possible.

The first is that the Government has advised schools in England to close, except for certain groups of children, from this Friday afternoon (20th March) onwards as a further measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. No date has been set for when schools will re-open for all pupils.

From Monday, the school will continue to be open for the following groups of pupils:

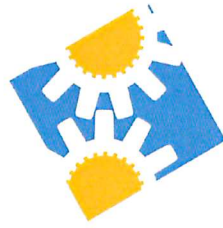
- Children whose parents are frontline workers – the Government has said these would include NHS staff, police and supermarket delivery drivers. However, others will be in this category and we expect to hear more from the Government on this in the coming days.
- Those classed as what the Secretary of State described as, “vulnerable children.” These could be those who have a social worker and those with Educational Health Care Plans (EHCPs).

For pupils in these groups, we have also been asked to remain open through the Easter holidays and we will do our best to achieve this. From Monday 24th March and through this period, our school will provide an education for these children.

As soon as I have more information on the above groups, I will share it with you and will then ask for parents and carers who fall within this group and are accepting this provision to contact the school.

Children who do not fall into the groups listed above should remain at home with appropriate care.

Please find detailed below our plan for learning at home. We understand what a challenging and unsettling time this is for everyone and how important it is to create a routine for you and your family to help you manage the next chapter as easily as possible.



Home Learning Plan

- We will upload a weekly plan for each year group to the school website. The website home page will tell you where you can find this.
- The first weekly plan will be printed for you and included in a pack that will be sent home with your child on Friday so you can familiarise yourself with the layout and know what you are looking for on our website.
- The plan details daily activities for your child for Maths and English, recommended times for each activity and additional links to websites for further learning.
- The plan includes ideas for physical activities, developing your child's knowledge and understanding of the world as well as a creative learning activity in our aim to cover the whole curriculum.
- We have also included a PSHE activity of daily acts of kindness and weekly mindful challenges to develop your child's social and mental health as well as their physical health. These are important often hidden elements of our curriculum but help to develop the whole child.

Motivation

We know how difficult it is for some children to engage in learning at home so your child will also bring home a record card in their pack to record their daily achievements. We would love to see these when your child returns to school so we can praise them for their effort.

Communication

We will use the school website, email, text and Marvellous Me to communicate with you.

In the meantime, I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation.

Take care.

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Carroll
Headteacher