

20 March 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, the national closure of schools starts from today (20 March). We have been very sorry to be saying goodbye to many of our learners this week, not knowing how long this enforced closure will last. However, we know and appreciate that the national situation is such, that this is for everyone's safety.

We continue to provide work and support for your child remotely and will be keeping in touch regularly over the coming weeks.

We also wanted to take this opportunity to pass on the most recent government advice (20 March 2020) on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19. The government has requested these key principles are followed:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home safely, then they should be.
2. Parents should not rely for childcare on those 'who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category'. This includes grandparents, friends, or family members with some underlying medical conditions.
3. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

The Government has requested that schools provide **optional care for a limited number of children.** These are:

- Children who are vulnerable
- Children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

**All other children will need to stay at home, unless it has been agreed with the school that they are in one of these categories.**

We have sent a separate parent-mail with the latest information and definitions of key workers, critical for the Covid-19 response. Please make sure you have completed the online form linked to the parent-mail if you believe this applies to you.

Each school will contact you if we believe your child fits one of the descriptors for being considered vulnerable and will discuss with you what support is appropriate for your child (if they have not already done so).

I want to reiterate the key message about the government's school closure plans: **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.** We absolutely understand that families are worried about being able to work, but these are extraordinary times.

This remains an ever-changing situation and the position may well change again in the future. **We will continue to update you as the need arises.**

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I wish to thank all our school staff and governors, who have helped in recent days to keep the school open, and who will continue to do so over the coming months. I would also like to thank you for your continued support and understanding during this difficult period.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Price', written in a cursive style.

Helen Price  
Executive Headteacher