



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I am now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services). We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means and a full list of those defined, as Key workers, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may qualify. I should add that where **both parents** live together and only one is a key worker, the presumption is that the other parent will be at home with the child. We will be in touch again as soon as we receive further information from the government around key worker status.

If your child is categorised as vulnerable (EHCP or has a social worker), Red Oaks Staff will contact you as soon as possible to discuss the next actions. You do not need to contact the school as our records will show who fall into this category. Please be aware that although we will do our best to staff this group of children, the children will not be receiving the full curriculum. If your child has medical needs, we will need to assess our ability to provide adequate care. In these instances, we will seek professional medical advice.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by email and through social media/school website etc.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home:

- Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.
- Work has been sent home to all children. In addition, we have put suggestions for resources that students can use whilst learning at home on our website. Children have also been sent home an exercise book with stickers on which provide 'log-in' details to various education websites that we buy in to.
- Key members of staff can be reached by e-mail and telephone as stated in a previous letter but please remember that some of them may be looking after family members or even be ill themselves so will not be able to answer immediately.
- We suggest you encourage your child to get into the routine of accessing some learning during the day to keep them in a routine.

Free School Meals

If your child usually receives free school meals (not Universal Reception and KS1 meals), we will also be in touch once the government has released further information about their proposed voucher scheme. In the meantime, you



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will be provided with an Asda voucher to the value of £15 per child per week. You should receive these by email next week.

We will continue to do our best to support all our families. Please bear with us as we are trying to get information to you as quickly as we can.

Best Wishes

Rachel Surch
Headteacher



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