



18th March 2020

Rackham (CE) Primary School Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from my previous email and the announcement from Number 10 this evening, I would like to offer some further clarification about how things are likely to play-out over the coming 48 hours.

As I am sure you are all now aware, Rackham (CE) Primary School will be closed to the vast majority of pupils from this Friday. However, there remains a great deal of detail we require as a school to establish how we can fulfil the brief outlined by the Government today. We have not yet been furnished with the details about which professions are included in the definitive description of a key worker, how many parents have to be a key worker, funding support or staffing coordination.

Tomorrow the Cabinet Office will publish categories of 'Key Workers' and who is encompassed in the term 'Vulnerable Pupils'. Although we use these terms regularly, it is fair to assume these categories will be refined in light of the current circumstances.

Therefore, it is our priority first and foremost to establish who falls into the categories published tomorrow. To do this a survey of some description will be devised by the school to ascertain pupil numbers and the subsequent necessity to utilise a provision of some sort. I am keen to give you all the 'heads up' as this information will be required very quickly in order to inform decision making and ensure arrangements are made for Monday. I hope for this survey to be an online one (e.g. Survey Monkey) so the information can be collated quickly and shared with relevant agencies, but I cannot say for sure if this preferred option will be viable from our management information system (Bromcom) . It is likely the information will be required before 5pm tomorrow so make sure you watch this space and check emails regularly.

With regards those families who do not fit the criteria and therefore will not attend school, as you all know we have quality provision already lined up. Again, I must stress family circumstances have been at the very forefront on our thinking when devising these. Further information regarding this will be shared before school 'closes' on Friday.

I wholly appreciate this evening's news raises a lot of questions, but please bear with us as we work through this challenge in what is a very tight deadline.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support and patience.
Bridget Harrison

