

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils**

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

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to provide for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. However, it may not necessarily be at their own school, but at another school within the Trust. We will be able to let you know this when a decision has been made.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories.

Please complete the Google Form here <https://forms.gle/2R6LAj6X3MMr5bNc9>

We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this applies to. It is our belief, but this will be confirmed, that to qualify for Key Worker child provision both parents in a joint household would need to be Key Workers.

**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'll re-open fully when instructed to do so. Please use the websites for information.

**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. You will receive information by the end of today how your school is intending to do this.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced. We are not at the moment sure whether this provision only applies to children in receipt of Free School Meals, which is means tested, or that it also applies to Universal Infant Free School Meals.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours faithfully



Mr P J Lovern  
Chief Executive Officer