



Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## COVID-19 UPDATE

**Dear Parents/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 now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday 20.03.20, until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers, children in Care, children on a Child Protection Plan, children on a Child in Need plan and children with a Education, Health and Care Plan.

While we are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, **the Local Authority** have defined key workers as:

- **NHS workers (including ambulance), doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, hospital cleaners**
- **Community safety staff: police and fire services,**

This is subject to change but is the current definition. It would help us if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. These categories are likely to change during this crisis and as soon as the government has clarified their position we will let you know.

If you believe that your child(ren) will need to attend school because you fall into one of the above categories, please email [admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk) with the information below.

It's imperative that this is done with full integrity and respect for the conditions set out; clearly if it's a two-parent/carer household with one parent a keyworker but the other not, then your child(ren) can stay at home. Additionally, whilst your child may have an EHCP, for example, you may feel that the best place for them at this time of anxiety is at home with you.

Schools are being asked to remain open to cater for those with a genuine need. I can assure you that the staff and governors are committed to meeting our responsibilities and will endeavour to manage this situation in the best way to help see us through the current emergency.

Information to email to [admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk) if applicable:

Your child or children's name/s and class/es.	Name: Class:
The reason why you think they need to attend.	
Would it be every day or just certain days (depending on your working pattern)?	
Do you also use our paid for breakfast and afterschool clubs for childcare?	
Any other information that may be relevant.	



The eligibility information will be cross referenced with the Local Authority. You will be asked to bring/ send to school confirmation of your workplace (for both parents where appropriate) which could include work identity badge/ confirmation of working hours.

We will be in touch again as soon as we are certain we are able to meet the needs of all requests.

Can we remind you that if you are in a household where anyone is self-isolating because they are either experiencing symptoms or have a vulnerability, your child should not be sent to school.

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23.03.20 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 text messaging, the School Gateway app and the school website.

### **Home Learning Packs and School Website** [www.heathfieldprimary.org.uk](http://www.heathfieldprimary.org.uk)

Please find enclosed a work pack which contains a variety of activities for the children to do. We suggest you use this with the children each day for a short period of time for some normality.

Depending on the wellbeing of our staff, we will endeavour to keep our website Home Learning Zone pages up to date and refreshed with different links and activities. Click on the Home Learning Zone tab to see a list of useful websites and then click on the Phase tab to find specific details for each year group. The teachers have provided targets for the kind of things the children would be working on if in school.

This should be part of each day and can also include some online activities, outdoor exercise, reading, drawing and practical activities. We recommend some structure to your days so that when we return to school, the children are ready for learning.

### **Free School Meals**

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.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us 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 will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via [admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk)

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.

Kind Regards

Gary Fullwood

Executive Head Teacher

