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**Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Green**

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace  
1 Peter 4:10*

*Work together, learn together, grow together...*

Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Covid-19 Update Number 7 – school closure to most pupils**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The government have now issued the following guidance:

- **If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**
- **Schools should remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.**
- **The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.**
- **Schools will continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.**

**Vulnerable children** include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with EHCPs (Education Health and Care Plans).

**Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19** response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the links above. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

**Please, therefore, follow these key principles:**

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. 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.

I am grateful to the parents who informed us of their 'key worker' status yesterday. This gave us a useful indicator for our provision for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. **The Local Authority have now produced a survey which is based upon the Government criteria for 'critical workers'. Please complete this as soon as possible:**

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IOM\\_8mowLU-yDq7UATSAsatwzDFJGq9LgqFa5IPbAd5UMFhTMFIPWFM3WTIRV1JUVEQ4TjdDNVJNVi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IOM_8mowLU-yDq7UATSAsatwzDFJGq9LgqFa5IPbAd5UMFhTMFIPWFM3WTIRV1JUVEQ4TjdDNVJNVi4u)

Once the answers to the survey have been collated, we will be in a position to inform parents if we can offer their child a school place from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. However, please expect this to be a changing picture as we enter into next week.

Some parents' work status may change over time and you could become a 'critical worker' at any stage. I can confirm that your child will have a school place should this occur. Parents have asked me what they should do if they work part-time. For the time being, please indicate on the slip below if you just require part-time childcare. I will be in touch in due course to confirm what our arrangements will be in these cases.

Please expect further communications today. In the meantime, I would advise you to read the Government guidance at the links given above. You can also email your questions to us and we will do our best to answer them.

Best wishes



Laura Green  
Executive Head Teacher

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**COVID 19 – SCHOOL PLACES REQUIRED FROM MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH**

My partner and I are critical workers **Or** I am a single parent and a critical worker (delete as applicable)

Our/My working hours are part-time.

We/I will require a place at school for our/my children on the following days:

Mon  Tues  Weds  Thurs  Fri

**Children's Names:**

**Classes:**

**Your Name(s):**

**Critical Job Role(s):**

**Contact Number(s):**