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## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE - SCHOOL CLOSURE/CRITICAL WORKER SURVEY

Dear Parent/carers,

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know formally that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children until further notice**. We have been told this will be at least until February ½ term.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of critical workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, teachers and others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. We would ask that, in order to limit the numbers of children attending school and, for the action of school closures to be effective as possible, that key workers take up our 'offer' only if it is absolutely necessary and where no other childcare arrangement can be made for their children. In this lockdown you are permitted to use childcare bubbles, which was not the case in the first lockdown. Guidance on this can be found at

[www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-childcare-bubble-with-another-household](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-childcare-bubble-with-another-household)

The Google form for critical worker families (who need their child in school) can be accessed through the link below. You only need to fill in this form if you are a critical worker who is requesting a place. We will aim to prioritize critical workers who are single-parent families or where both parents are critical workers. Parents of vulnerable children will be contacted directly by phone so **do not** need to fill in this form.

Link: *please see the link in the email sent to parents.*

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school.** We will re-open fully as soon as permitted.

Your child's learning is, of course, important to us, so we will continue to help your child with this. The email this morning already gave you details of the work for the next few days. We aim to use this until Friday when we plan to move to Google classroom remote learning. More details will follow about this in the coming days.

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, once we have received further clarification.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have a huge impact on our families but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

We still have some families who have not given us an email address. Over the coming weeks we will be using email and website to communicate so it is vital we have all details. **If you don't receive emails from us then please contact the office with your current address asap.**

From tomorrow (Wednesday) parent/carers are able to come to school to pick up personal items, diaries, etc. These will be in the MAIN hall and each class will have their own table. Access to the hall will be via the side doors, which face the dining room. Parents will not be able to access the rest of the school and we ask that only 1 adult goes into the hall and wears a face covering as well. The hall will open from 8-4 for the rest of the week.

Once again I would like to thank you all for your amazing support. To be honest it has been quite emotional receiving your messages and they have really boosted us at this challenging time. You are truly a smashing bunch! I can promise you we will do everything we can to support you and your children during these next few uncertain weeks.

Best wishes,

Mr Deery

