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19th March, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re – Coronavirus update – school closure for most pupils

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

A school setting will be open for some pupils – these settings and groups have yet to be defined in detail by the Government. We are still waiting on further DfE guidance on the final definition of 'key workers' and we will do our best to keep you updated about this once we have further information.

It is currently thought to include the groups below:-

- NHS staff, police, delivery drivers
- Children with certain needs eg children with a social worker and pupils with an EHC plan

We will be contacting parent/carers of pupils in the above groups tomorrow to ensure clear arrangements are in place for these pupils to attend school on Monday 23rd March, 2020. It would be helpful if you think your child may fall into one of these categories to contact the school office by phone. Further details around this will be confirmed as soon as we have further information.

All other children will need to stay at home, until further notice. 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 follow Government guidance regarding re-opening and will keep you informed by text and letter.

The Government are organising a system for free school meal pupils (not Universal) to receive support through a voucher system. Further details about this will be shared when school has received any update but at the moment we are working with Chartwells to provide a packed lunch for FSM. Further details about this arrangement will be discussed as soon as they are confirmed. We are liaising with Chartwells at the moment.

Web links for each year group are also on the school web site under the name of each class. These resources can be used as activities for pupils who are at home and they include appropriate aged learning activities. Exercise is also important and Government guidance on this has been discussed in the news. Spelling Shed, TTRockstars and Purple Mash have been included for appropriate year groups too.

The Government have confirmed that school exams have been cancelled and there will be no published school performance tables this year.

We are still waiting for final confirmation regarding after-school and breakfast club arrangements as we plan to follow the DfE guidance on this.

The symptoms of the Coronavirus remain -

- a high temperature(Public Health note that any temperature of 37.8C (100F) or more can be defined as a high temperature)
- A new, dry, persistent cough

Please consult the [NHS](#), if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use [NHS 111 online](#) if at all possible before calling 111. The Department for Education's coronavirus helpline number is: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools

Our school web site contains information from the DfE about the virus and we will endeavour to keep this updated with any new information as it is released. Hand-washing continues to be very important. It is recommended that you wash your hands for the amount of time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice (around 20 seconds.)

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this situation. We understand that the latest news will have an impact on you and your family and we will continue to keep in touch with any updates, using our school web.

We sincerely hope all of our Stanford family and friends keep safe and well at this time.

Wishing you all the very best,



Leona Hackfath
Headteacher