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20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **SCHOOL CLOSURE FOR MOST PUPILS:**

Dear Parents and carers,

As a community, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID 19 virus and protect our loved ones. The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID 19 is clear. **If children can stay at home, they should, as this will limit the chance of the virus spreading.**

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 the wider society. As you are aware the decision has been made for schools to close today except for children of certain key workers. **However, many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home.**

### **COVID 19 – Key Workers**

**If it is at all possible for children to be at home then they should be.**

Vulnerable children are:

- Highlighted to the school as a safeguarding concern – school have made contact with families to offer places on a needs basis.
- Those children with an EHC Plan
- Those children who are looked after by the authority

**Parents must be employed as a key worker – where only one parent is employed as a key worker we would urge you to keep your child at home whenever possible in order to keep both them and our staff safe. We are relying on the integrity and support of our community to be able to provide support to our front line workers.**

Places will be limited, keeping groups small, to ensure we are still exercising social distancing, to keep groups small, so again please only request a space if absolutely essential. If we exceed the number of places available, we may need to direct families to other schools in the local area.

### **Identification required**

Proof of employment must be seen by school before 7pm of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March to secure a childcare place. This can be brought into school or emailed to the email address at the top of this letter. Examples could be: id cards, wage slips (with private information covered), or a letter from your employer. Once accepted, a place may be allocated for your child Monday- Friday from 8:45am – 3:25pm. You will not need to send your child each day,

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only when child care is needed. If however you do not need child care everyday, please let us know.

**We re-iterate again, if it is at all possible for children to be at home then they should be.**

**If we expect your child to be at school on Monday, you will have received a call today to discuss this further.** If you have not, please do not send children in as we will not be able to accept them onsite and you will be asked to take them home.

As soon as we are made aware that school can re-open we will, of course, be in touch and look forward to welcoming you back. In the meantime, stay safe and look after one another.

We thank you for your support and understanding at what I hope you will see is a challenging time for us all.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Heng  
Head Teacher

