

## The Key Education Centre

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**Head teacher:** Mrs Leanne Forde-Nassey



20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm sure that you will have heard the Prime Minister's announcement on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March about general school closures and the provision for children of key workers and 'vulnerable' children. I'm writing to give you an update on our plans for this, following advice from the Local Authority.

School will close at the end of the day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March and **there is no expectation** that pupils will attend school until we receive further advice from the Government. However, schools have been asked to provide an **emergency service**.

### Emergency Service

While our school will be closed for general admissions, all schools across the country are being asked to run an **emergency service** for the children of key workers in essential services so that they are able to continue to work. You will have received a phone call today from one of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss whether your family is part of this category. **There is no expectation** that children of these key workers have to attend school. If you fall into this group and wish to make other arrangements, then you are able to do so.

We are also being asked to continue to provide education for children who have an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP), children who have a social worker assigned to the family and children from families receiving Early Help. Again, **there is no expectation** that these children have to come to school. A member of our team will contact you to discuss what would be best for your child and hopefully you have already received a call today as we worked through all of our families where we were able to make contact.

### General information

- The County Council will continue to make home-to-school transport available to those children that are eligible to receive it. In some instances that might require some changes to be made which may take a little time. We expect further information from the County Council if this is the case.

- **We will be changing to timing of the school day** as a temporary measure. Pupils will start the day at 09.00 and finish at 14.00. We will continue to make breakfast and lunch available.
- If your child is entitled to free school meals and you are self-isolating or will not be accessing the emergency service but would still like us to support you with this, then please get in contact as soon as possible if you haven't already confirmed this to us when we called you today.
- For those children who will be at home from Monday morning, there will be on-line resources that will help children continue to learn. The BBC has said that it will be increasing the range of its resources to support children's education. We have also included a list of useful websites and online learning platforms on our school website, as detailed in one of our previous letters. We have some work packs prepared that will also be sent out to the pupils.

If you did not manage to take the call from us today and would like to speak with someone then please get in contact on [adminoffice@thekey.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@thekey.hants.sch.uk). In addition to this, if you have informed us that you will not be sending your child to access this provision, but this changes in the future and your child is on the category to receive this **emergency school service** then please contact us to discuss this further so that we can ensure we have the correct number of staff available.

I'd like to thank you all for your support through these unprecedented times. Please be assured that I will continue to update you as the situation changes and that we will continue to work for the best interests of the children at our school. You have all been incredibly supportive and I thank you all for the concern you have also shown towards our staff. Our priority is to protect our pupils and staff from the virus and whilst we are able to continue to support an emergency provision at our school, we will do so. If this changes at any point due to our own staff requiring self-isolation you will of course be updated. Please keep yourselves safe and do not hesitate to contact us should there be anything you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely,



Leanne Forde-Nassey

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*The Key Education Centre*

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