

Re Coronavirus update and school closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

Are you a key worker?

Following on from our last update, we are writing to confirm that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in front line services), delivery drivers and vulnerable pupils (EHCP or social worker assigned to the family)

We are still waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know (if you haven't already done so) if you think you and your partner would be deemed a key worker.

(Please e-mail parents@gorsehillprimary.co.uk or call our office staff tomorrow with this information.)

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards and begin working with your child on the home learning package sent out earlier this week.

Childcare provision places for eligible children will commence on Monday 23rd March from 9am until 3.15pm. Paid for breakfast and after school club provision will still be available for eligible pupils whilst staffing allows.

Children will be registered and spend the school day taking part in a range of activities similar to those usually available or general childcare provision. The home learning activities sent home earlier this week will also be available for children should they wish to complete it whilst in school. Teachers and teaching assistants will supervise these activities and a member of senior leadership will be in school daily.

More details regarding this provision will be sent out once we have a clearer picture of the number of children taking up the offer and supervision ratios.

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'll re-open fully as soon as we can and keep you informed as more information on this unprecedented situation comes through.

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

What we won't be able to go ahead with at this time

- School trips
- Internal exams or tests

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information tomorrow.

The Senior Leadership Team