



Thursday 19th March, 2020.

Re : School Closure for some pupils – LATEST UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well at this difficult time for us all. Let us continue to support each other over the coming days and weeks.

We are aware that some schools are sending out letters informing parents of categories of key workers who can access schools from Monday. We have not done this because the Government has not yet released a definitive list. We want to ensure you that any information we provide to you is factual and helps you make the plans you need to make.

As we have not yet had the specific guidance, I wanted to write to you to let you know about what is in place and what actions we will be taking before the end of the week.

We have a plan to provide meals for children who receive Free School Meals but who cannot be in school next week due to self-isolation or because they do not meet the key worker criteria. We will write to you tomorrow to tell you how this will work. If your child is in school next week, we will continue to provide food as normal.

You may have heard talk of supermarket vouchers being provided. The Government is working on a national response and until this is achieved, we will be providing food hampers next week, rather than vouchers. Please look out for an update tomorrow and we will be reviewing our approach, week by week.

For those children who will not be attending school or self-isolating, our teachers are busy preparing activities you can carry out at home. These will be on our school websites by 3pm tomorrow. If you do not have internet access, please let us know by 9am tomorrow and we can provide paper copies of the work set that children can take home tomorrow.

The Government has asked schools to remain open over the Easter holidays. Again, we are working on this and we will have updates next week and what things may look like. The Government has been clear that schools are not required to deliver the National Curriculum so lessons and normal routines will not be taking place. Schools are being repurposed to support key workers who need to be available to work.



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We appreciate that you have questions and this time of uncertainty can be unsettling for many but please know that as soon as we have the information, we will communicate it to you. We need you to know that we have plans in place and we are here for our families and community.

Mr Grinsill and I were overwhelmed by the positivity we felt on the school gate this morning and for your kind words of understanding, support and gratitude. Thank you so much for the feedback and for the time you are taking out of your busy lives to see how we and the school community are; we very much appreciate this.

We will be in touch tomorrow with more detail and clarity. Thank you once again.
Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S.A. Ryan'.

Miss Ryan (*on behalf of the Ilsham team*)
Head of Academy