



20th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are still open and can I confirm that we have at this point still not had any confirmed cases of Coronavirus amongst staff and pupils.

We are doing our very best to ensure that the children coming in are well cared for and engaged, but I must stress at this point that we are moving towards a point where we are being carers, not educators. With the staff numbers at our disposal, we cannot deliver high quality education, but I assure you that if we are open, we can ensure that your child has fun with their friends and is safe. If the time comes when I do not have enough staff at my disposal to maintain safety levels, then of course I will inform you all. We are managing an ever changing workforce, with some staff having to isolate, but soon we will have others returning at the end of their isolation period. I am sure it will be the same for the fluctuating numbers of pupils we see over the coming weeks, but based on the Government guidance published late last night, can I please stress the following:

Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore follow these key principles:

- 1. In line with Government guidelines, we are open at Mayfield School for vulnerable children but if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
2. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
3. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

All normal safeguarding monitoring systems will remain in place and we will be allocating all available resources to ensure we provide as high a level of support as is possible at this difficult time. Members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Pastoral Team will contact individual families on a case by case basis.

We are currently working with City Serve who provide our school dinners on solutions to support those of you who are entitled to free school meals to be able to collect a meal from a set destination at lunchtime Monday to Friday and we will let you know as soon as we have a solution set up.

Please keep looking at the school website homepage <http://www.mayfield.bham.sch.uk/> for regular updates. We will be publishing very soon links to activities and web pages which you can do with your child at home.

If your child has symptoms of a dry persistent cough or a temperature above 37.8°C, **then they will be refused entry to the school buildings.**

If your child is returning to school after a period of absence then we will be following a different procedure to normal. You will need to give us 48 hours notice of their return by calling the school. This will give us the opportunity to ensure adequate staffing to maintain safety is in place. **You must contact your transport provider (see text message sent to you today) to reactivate your transport as they are currently operating a reduced routes programme and will not come to collect your child unless you contact them.**

If you need to contact us then either call or go to the website address above and click on the envelope in the top right hand corner to send us a message.

Look after yourselves and your families!

Kind regards,



Simon Harris

Interim Headteacher, Mayfield School