



23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had to make the difficult decision that we will now only be providing structured care for the children of Key Workers who are working all hours to stop the spread of this dreadful virus and also a few of our most vulnerable children, who need our care and support urgently.

We have made this decision as we are following guidance from the Education Secretary Gavin Williamson announced on social media, 'You should only send your child to school on Monday if you have to, because your work is critical to our COVID-19 response. If you are able to keep your child at home, you should. #StayHomeSaveLives

In addition, the levels of staff absence due to isolation means that we are finding it incredibly difficult to provide anything but a skeleton staffing to care for your children.

Therefore from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, we will be closed until further notice to all pupils apart from the ones who receive a specific text message this evening by 6pm saying that we can cater for your child's needs. If you have not received a text message saying that we are open for your child by 6pm, we would ask that you keep them at home, which we all know is the safest place for them at this time.

For those who do receive a text invite and will be sending their child into school, we will be moving the whole of our provision to Heathfield Rd, so if you drop your child off, then please drop them to Heathfield Rd, even if they are normally educated at Wheeler St. We have informed Travel assist today of the list of pupils to be picked up tomorrow. Please understand that due to the short notice, they may find it difficult tomorrow morning to get all the transport required in place as they are managing a huge network of routes which are changing on a daily basis at the moment. We do however hope that this service will settle down over the coming days.

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, Pastoral Team and Class Teams will contact individual families on a case by case basis.

Those children who come into school will receive a meal from the kitchen at Heathfield Rd, but this will need to be paid for as usual if you are not a receiver of free school meals. City Serve will also be making lunches for those of you who are keeping your children at home, but are entitled to free school meals. If you would like to, you will be able to collect a meal from Wheeler St

between 11am-12pm, Monday to Friday. This offer is available to children not in school and can I stress you need to pick your meals up from the main Wheeler St entrance, even if your child normally attends school at Heathfield Rd.

Please keep looking at the school website homepage <http://www.mayfield.bham.sch.uk/> for regular updates. Over the next few days, we will be publishing more and more links to activities and web pages which you can do with your child at home.

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