

Friday 20th March 2020

Provision for critical workers & vulnerable children

Dear Parents of _____,

As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The Prime Minister has instructed that all educational settings, including schools, close from the end of school today until further notice.

Today, the government has asked that **parents keep their children at home**, wherever possible, and asked educational settings to **open only to 'vulnerable children' and those who absolutely need to attend so 'critical workers' can keep essential services going**. If your child can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

You have self-identified as a critical worker or have a child(ren) who is classed as vulnerable. We have tried to contact parents to confirm arrangements either by phone or text. Like all schools, we are not open to families so 'normal life' can continue. The country is preparing for a national emergency situation, and schools are being asked to play their part in this effort, therefore we expect parents only to use our childcare provision when there is no alternative available.

Arrangements for those who absolutely need to attend:

- Breakfast club runs from 7:30am → 8:20am and childcare provision from 8:20am → 2:45pm Monday to Friday.
- Normal drop off and collection routines apply which have been in operation this week.
- We will be flexible with days and times depending on critical workers' rotas and duties. If dropping off or collecting at different times, please take your child to the main entrance and ring the bell.
- Children will be expected to be in school uniform.
- Children will be provided with a school dinner.

Home learning packs have been sent home which staff have been working hard to develop this week in preparation of school closing. If you are currently self-isolating, friends and neighbours can collect packs from the tables at the front of school today. Packs have been created for all children as we do not know what may happen in the coming days and weeks.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Thank you for the cards and messages of support we have been receiving, which have been very much appreciated by our team of talented and dedicated staff. Take care, be safe and we look forward to having our wonderful families back at Mossgate as soon as possible.

Best wishes

Mr Smith and the entire Mossgate team