



19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

SCHOOL CLOSURE

Yesterday evening the Government announced that schools will be closing at the end of school on Friday to all pupils other than vulnerable pupils or pupils whose parents/carers are classed as key workers. All other pupils must stay off school from Monday until the Government announces that schools can reopen. At this time, it is not known when this will be but the fact that exams in May and June have been cancelled suggests that this could be for a considerable time.

Which children can still come to school?

Vulnerable pupils

Vulnerable pupils will still be able to come to school. The only exceptions to this will be if your child is self-isolating because they or a member of your family have symptoms of Coronavirus, or if they have an underlying health condition that puts them at greater risk if they catch the virus.

The Government has said that it classes vulnerable pupils as those who already have either:

- **an Education, Care and Health Plan (ECHP).** This is for pupils with significant SEND or health needs and you will be aware if your child has an ECHP.
- **an attached social worker**

No other pupils fall into the vulnerable category at this time.

If your child has an ECHP or a social worker, we will contact you to discuss arrangements and follow this up with a letter.

Children of Key Workers

Children of key workers will still be able to come to school if there is not anyone else at home during the day to look after them. The only exceptions to this will be if your child is self-isolating because they or a member of your family have symptoms of Coronavirus, or if they have an underlying health condition that puts them at greater risk if they catch the virus.

The Government has not yet listed the full range of jobs that it has decided are key workers at this time but the list is likely to include: NHS workers, police, firefighters, teachers, social workers, supermarket delivery drivers, carers for the elderly or vulnerable.

Pupils of parents with jobs other than those listed as key workers by the Government will not be able to come to school unless your child meets the vulnerable pupil criteria above.

If you consider that you are a key worker, you can register for a school place for your child by clicking on the link below. The registration form is also on the website. Registration is only for pupils who attend Geoffrey Field Junior School. Please register as soon as you can so that the school knows how many children in which year groups to expect on Monday. If you have another child at a different school, you will need to contact their school to register for a place.

CLICK THE LINK TO OPEN REGISTRATION FORM <https://forms.gle/L1kgHTAhCufajLum6>

After receiving your registration form, we will check that your job is on the key worker list when it is published and will send you a letter on Friday to confirm whether you have a place and with further details if you do.

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Unless your child meets the vulnerable pupil criteria or you are a key worker in one of the jobs listed by the Government, your child will not be able to come into school until the Government reopens schools to all pupils. We do not know when this will be.

I realise that this will cause many of you difficulties in finding child care if you are in a job that does not enable working from home during the Coronavirus pandemic. This is an extraordinary time and we are all being asked to take extraordinary actions to ensure that we and the ones we love are protected and remain healthy.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to a free school meal, we will write to you separately on Friday with further information.

Pupils working from home

From Monday, for all children that are at home, we will put into place the working at home plan that I wrote to you about yesterday. All children have a pack of work to be getting on with for the first few days and then children should access work from Google Classroom and practise their reading using Bug Club and their times tables using Times Table Rock Stars.

Y6 SATs

The Government has said that all exams in May have been cancelled. This includes the end of KS2 SATs that all our Year 6 pupils were due to sit in May. Instead of the SAT test score, we will make a teacher assessment judgement based on the work that children have done since the start of Year 6. These teacher assessments will be shared with the secondary school that your child will go to.

I would again like to thank you for all your incredible support and understanding during this demanding time. I look forward to the time when we can all be together again in school – we will miss not having all the children with us. In the meantime, we wish all our families well and hope that you all remain safe and healthy.

Your sincerely,

Shelly Hancock

Headteacher

