



St Mary's Road Hayling Island
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Headteacher: Lindsay Rebbitt

March 20th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Closures – Further Information

As you are aware schools have been asked to close as of Friday 20th March.

The Government has asked parents to keep their children at home wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

However, if both parents in a two parent household or the parent in a single parent household are working, and **one** of these parents is working in a role which is critical to the Covid19 response, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then you are able to continue to send your child to school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The Government has identified a list of critical workers that they wish to support by providing a skeleton school service.

This list is as follows:

Health and Social Care Workers	Includes; Doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, producers and distributors of medicines and medical personal protective equipment, front line health and social care staff.
Education and Childcare	Nursery and teaching staff, social workers, specialist education professionals.
Key Public Services	Those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charity workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, journalists or broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.
Local and National Government	Those employed as part of the Covid19 response or engaged in public services such as the payment of benefits.
Food and Other Necessary Goods	Those involved in food production, processing, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods. (ie hygienic and veterinary medicines)
Public safety and national security	Includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national service outputs and essential to the response to the Covid19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees, National crime agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.
Transport	This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport operating.



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Utilities, communications and financial services	Workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure, oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector employees, staff working in civil, nuclear, chemicals, telecommunication, postal services and delivery, waste disposal services.
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If parents think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

If you are a key worker under the criteria and wish for your child to be in school please ring the school office on 02392 462470 by 3pm on Friday 20th March. They will take key information on your role from you. Subsequently, if you can contact the school office via e mail or phone on the Friday of each week to let us know which days you will require your child to be in school the following week this will help us ensure we have correct and safe staff ratios.

Please be aware that under this guidance the schools will be offering reduced provision. Due to the number of children we predict to have in school we assume that this will equate to around one mixed age class. The learning will be based around the content of the home learning sessions and not based around the national curriculum. The children will not always be working with their normal class teacher, as we manage a rota of staffing which allows school to continue to run in the current climate. School meals will be provided for these children.

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At present, schools are being encouraged to open over the Easter period for key worker families. However, if numbers are small it may be that we consider how we can work alongside OSCA and the junior school to best facilitate this.

School will be contacting our more vulnerable families directly on Friday to discuss how we can continue to support them.

In terms of the provision of free school meals, school will be working with our catering team to provide a cold packed lunch each day for children who are eligible for benefit related free school meals. We will be working with the junior school to deliver these meals throughout the morning. If your child is eligible and you would like to take part in this service you can phone or e mail the office each Monday morning with the days you require a lunch delivery that week. If for any reason there is a change of circumstances and you no longer require a meal on a certain day then please advise the office before 9.30am so that we don't waste food or delivery time.

OSCA, our on site breakfast and after school club provider will also be able to open before and after school for key worker families but as this is an out of hours service this will be chargeable. I have attached their letter alongside this one.

Best wishes

Lindsay Rebbitt

Headteacher