

20/03/20

Dear Parent/Carer

Child Care Eligibility

Thank you to those of you who have completed the eligibility for childcare survey we sent out this morning. At this stage **we have not been able to confirm your eligibility** for childcare based on the criteria outlined in this morning's letter:

'Pupils of families where all adults work in front line emergency services ie NHS, police and fire service and who are unable to find alternative care.'

This means that school will be closed for your child/ren on Monday 23rd March 2020

As stated this morning we are sending a further survey for you to complete over the weekend, which is in line with government guidelines for eligible critical workers received by schools this morning.

Closure of educational settings – guidance for parents and carers

Having reviewed these guidelines, in order to make the provision manageable we will be developing a tiered approach which will be based upon the number of staff we have available in school to run the provision.

The guidelines clearly state that:

'There is a requirement on key worker parents to obtain confirmation from their employer that, based on business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.'

Guidance for schools, colleges and local authorities on maintaining educational provision 19/03/20

To be eligible for childcare we will be asking for this confirmation – please bear this in mind when completing the survey. Please could all survey responses be sent to school by 10am on Monday 23rd March.

Please follow this link to complete the survey

We are aware that for some of you this is extremely frustrating as the government guidelines have asked schools to try and accommodate a large group of critical workers children. Many of our school staff are also in vulnerable groups or self-isolating due to illness or because they have family members in vulnerable groups. Our workface is limited and as I'm sure you understand we are bound by health and safety guidelines at all times.

Moving Forward

We will contact you on Monday if you are eligible for the next tier of support and will ask at this time for confirmation from your employer.


It is important to remember that the childcare provision we put in place can only open if there are enough staff to care for pupils safely, if not we may be forced to close it for a period of time. We will keep this under constant review and keep you updated should this be the case.

Lunch provision

For those entitled to free school meals you will continue to receive lunches throughout the period of school closure. You will receive a text message from the school explaining the procedure for collecting your meal or any alternative arrangements in place. Please liaise directly with the school if this is not the case. As at the time of writing, we have not received any further information on the voucher scheme but will share this when received.

For those who pay for lunches if you have already purchased meals that you will no longer be needing these have already been cancelled and will appear as a credit on the system which you will be able to use when schooling is resumed as will all other credits on your account. For pupils in Yr 6, 11 or 13 not returning to Pathfinder schools if we are not fully operational before the summer break you will receive a refund.

We thank you for your ongoing support.



Ann Davey
Chief Executive



Meena Gabbi
Head Teacher