

20th March 2020

Dear Families,

Following the latest Government announcement, school is now closed to all pupils other than Vulnerable Pupils and children of Key Workers until further notice. Families of all of these pupils should have been contacted today about the arrangements for attendance.

For clarity, vulnerable pupils are those with Education Health and Care Plans and those with an allocated social worker. This list of Key Worker jobs can be found on a link on the school website.

We would like to stress the latest Government guidance;

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.

We are therefore following these key principles:

- If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
- Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
- The fewer children making contact with others, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

We appreciate that school closure will provide huge challenges for many families and it will be important that children keep up with a regular routine in terms of their education. We have posted on the school website the details of how children will access learning materials via our Office 365 / Teams platform and all pupils have been given guidance on accessing this over the last week. The Teams app for mobile phones has also been found to be useful.

Teachers will be setting daily work in accordance with the current timetable and we expect that children will keep up with this work in the coming weeks. The Office365 platform allows pupils to see clearly what work has been set and to keep track of work that they have "Turned In". We hope that this will provide a structure for their daily routine and will allow parents to check that they are up to date. Please check the school website www.sarchs.com for details and a video tutorial of how this system works.

For parents of Year 11 pupils, we are awaiting information about how the GCSE grades will be issued for this year and will inform you as soon as we have any clarification.

If you have any safeguarding concerns please call Children's Social Care on 0300 123 6720.

Yours sincerely,

M Wright

M Wright
Headteacher