Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**School update on Closure**

As you know, the government has taken the decision to close schools across England from tomorrow afternoon (Friday 20th March 2020). In accordance with this, we will close at 3.30pm for the majority of children and 5.00pm for those who attend After School Club on Friday.

From next week, schools in England will be expected to play a new role in support of vulnerable learners and key workers. This will involve us being open for some students. We have been in contact with families of students who we know fall into the vulnerable group already.

Although at the time of writing this, the government has not yet published any guidance for schools regarding who will be included in the key worker group, we understand it will apply to couples or single parents who are all key workers.

In order to plan our next steps, we need to identify which of our children will qualify and which of our families want to make use of the provision. If you think your job is listed below and you can provide us with some evidence of your current role (ID badge, contract, serviced website that identifies, etc.), please inform us urgently so we are able to plan our provision which will begin on Monday 23rd March 2020.

* Any NHS worker
* School employees
* Care workers who look after the vulnerable or elder
* Supermarket delivery drivers
* Police or community support officers and some civilian police staff
* Prison officers
* Probation service staff
* Social workers
* Local Authority planners
* Firefighters
* Ministry of Defence personnel
* Environment Health officers
* Highway Agency Traffic Officers

**This is not a definitive or definite list as at the time of writing, the government has still not provided any guidance. We cannot, therefore, guarantee places at school until the key worker list is available.**

**If you think your child is eligible, please email the office with the information requested on the form below BEFORE 9.30AM TOMORROW MORNING (FRIDAY 20TH MARCH).**

We are expecting the numbers of children attending school to be very low but I also have to consider the safety of my staff, a number of whom are coping with a range of different circumstances.

We will send out further information regarding food packages (or possibly vouchers) for families eligible for free school meals but I am waiting for more information from our catering company about how this will be addressed.

As I receive further information, I will send it through to you.

My thanks to you all for your patience, calmness and understanding during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Quartson

Headteacher

**Key workers and provision in school for their children**

We will be providing care and learning for children of key workers over the coming period. This will be from 9.00am – 3.30pm from Monday 23rd March.

Single parent families or families with both parents working in these occupations will be prioritised.

Please complete the following if you are a key worker:

**Names and year group/s of your children:**

1

2

3

**Your current profession and place of work:**

**On which days will your child/ren need to be in school?**

**Your name:**

**Work Email address:**

**Home Email address:**

**Phone number:**

We will contact you regarding this information tomorrow (Friday 20th March) to confirm your key worker status and a place for your child/ren.

Please email the completed form to [office@watlingparkschool.org.uk](mailto:office@watlingparkschool.org.uk) before 9.30am on Friday 20th March.

Many thanks.