

Mousehold Infant and Nursery School  
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Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Westall  
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Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Rebecca Westall, Mr Ian Tolson, Miss Zoë Wood

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

#### Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of frontline key workers ( NHS staff, police, the emergency services, prison and probation workers, carers for the elderly/vulnerable, social workers, delivery drivers, refuse collectors, supermarket workers, school staff) who can't provide childcare at home and children with an EHCP or a currently assigned social worker.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories and you would like them to attend school next week.

- If you believe you are eligible to send your child to school during the closure and you intend to send them please fill in the form on ParentMail and tell us your child's name, class and your name, your job and the name of your employer. **Please do this by 3pm on Friday.**

The rules still apply with the group of children named above that if your child is ill or a household member is ill then they cannot come into school and must self isolate for 14 days. This will then keep other children and staff as healthy as possible.

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by e mail and text.

#### What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

- Learning packs will be sent home. This is enough work for 2 weeks and then we will review and get in touch.
- Every family has been given their log in details for the VLE ( Virtual Learning Environment. ) This will be continually updated with links to home learning such as Phonics Play etc.



- It is really important you keep your children active and give them as much fresh air as possible. This will help them physically, mentally and emotionally. This will also help the whole family.
- We also encourage you to make the time for fun activities as a family and ensure you build in time for the children to play. It is an ideal time to play games together, make a cake, go star gazing, read stories together, arts and crafts and quality time together.
- If your child is Pupil Premium we have been in touch to let you know how your child can access meals every day from school. We do however need to know numbers in advance. So if you haven't yet informed the office please do so. This needs to be by Friday this week please.
- There will always be staff in the school and you can continue to e mail the office if you have any questions throughout the school closure.
- A Designated Safeguarding Lead will always be in school to support where we can.

### **What we won't be able to go ahead with**

- School trips
- Early Club or all after school provision.
- Year 1 Phonics Check
- Year 2 SATS

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#). Please continue to follow government guidelines on putting in measures to keep yourself and others well.

**The way the school community has come together during this challenging period has been heart warming. We have had so many messages of offers of support and offers of help. The staff team are working together seamlessly and the atmosphere in school is one of team work, support and encouragement.**

Some children have already taken **learning packs** home. If your child hasn't been in school or doesn't come home with a learning pack today then please collect from school by Friday 4pm this week. If you need to send someone else to collect your child's pack then that is fine. They can be collected from the school office.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Westall  
Headteacher

