



Orchards Junior School

Being the best we can be ... not in the world but for the world



Healthy School



Eco Schools Green Flag



Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values



Charter Standard for Schools

Dear Parents

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 by the government to close the school to almost all children after this Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers where either both parents are key workers or it is a single parent household with a key worker. These have been identified as:

- NHS workers
- Police, Fire Service
- School Based Staff and Social Workers
- Adult Care Workers
- Supermarket Delivery Drivers

In addition children with an EHCP, Child Protection plans or are looked after children may attend.

We will need you to let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories so we can plan for the number we can expect. It is imperative you e-mail us at enquiries@orchardsjunior.school by **2 p.m. Friday 20th March** to let us know, making sure to include your occupation if you are a Key Worker.

All other children MUST stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards until further notice.

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 via the website.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. We have a range of activities available on-line for the children to access, so we are making sure they have their log-in details for all these things.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will be in touch with more information about how we can continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government is due to announce. It would be advisable to send your child in with a packed lunch whilst those arrangements are being made.

Obviously, there will be no before school or after school clubs other than Breakfast Club which will run as normal.

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.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via our e-mail enquiries@orchardsjunior.school

Remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](https://www.nhs.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Paul Jones

19.03.20