

**COALWAY COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL**

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18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

The Prime Minister has this evening announced that **all schools across the UK will close at 3.00p.m this Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March and remain closed to most pupils until further notice.**

Schools have been asked to make provision for the children of key workers and also for the most vulnerable children. Schools will need to remain open for these children only.

A full list of key worker categories will be published by the Cabinet Office tomorrow. However, ministers included the following in their statements today: Health workers, Police officers, Delivery drivers, Social care workers, Teachers and Nursery workers. If you think that you fall into one of these categories, please contact the school via email or telephone so that we can begin to make arrangements.

As regards details of the most vulnerable children, the Government explained that this includes children with EHCPs (Education Health Care Plans) or those who have a Social Worker.

Children who do not fall into these groups should remain at home with appropriate care.

The Prime Minister also announced that meals would be supplied, or vouchers provided, for children eligible for free school meals. We anticipate that all of our Pupil Premium children should qualify for this and will contact the relevant parents when we receive further information about this process.

The Government advised that exams will not take place in May or June this year. For our particular age group of children, we envisage that this will include Key Stage 1 SATs (tests that we expected our Year 2 children to take in May) and the Year 1 Phonics test (which was planned to take place in June). However, we will again await clarification regarding this.

Finally, it was announced that children should not be left with older or more vulnerable adults, which we know that many parents have already put into practice through social distancing measures.

These announcements mean that for the majority of our children, this Friday will be their last day in school for some time. Please rest assured though that you will continue to be able to contact us via our school email should you need to do so and I shall also continue to regularly update all parents via our website or texts.

We have prepared some home learning packs for the children, which will be sent home with the children tomorrow, or alternatively may be collected from school. Class 1 and 2 parents should have received their packs on Tuesday. We shall also add some of this information to the website on the Class pages and will continue to refresh home learning ideas over the coming weeks.

I will update you with further information in the coming days and as soon as I receive clarification regarding some of today's announcements in particular.

Yours sincerely,

F. Hamilton

Headteacher