



Thursday 12th 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 key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs.

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. Please email secretary@heamoor.cornwall.sch.uk or by telephoning the school office on **(01736) 364868**. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to.

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 happens via the usual communication method; parentmail, school text message and on the school website.

To allow us to fully prepare in this very unique and unprecedented situation, as a school **we will be closing for 2 days** (Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March) to take pause which will allow us to plan out the logistics of this situation including staffing and the provision for the children. We will reopen on Wednesday 25th March for children of key workers as detailed above.

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. You received details yesterday of the Home Learning Grids. Additional grids will be made available on the website on a regular basis throughout the closure and as you know we will continue to utilise our Purple Mash learning platform also. Your class page within the website will be your central point of information for this. You have all received a Home Learning book for the children to work in and if you need additional books, please email via the secretary email address above to request this.

This will be a scary and uncertain time for our children and they will be feeling the tension and anxiety around then which is likely to show in the children's behaviour initially. Whilst structure and routine will help them manage their anxiety please try to punctuate their day with activities you can do as a family as this will help with the feeling of security, also try not to battle with them to complete their learning. We don't want it to be the source of arguments.

Free School Meals

If your child usually receives free school meals (*which doesn't appear that this includes Universal Free school meals at present*) we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, once we have received some clarity from Government on how their schemes will support it.

What we won't be able to go ahead with

As you are probably aware the statutory assessments will not take place this summer, this includes the Year 1 Phonic screening check, End of Key Stage SATs for Y2/6 and the Y4 Multiplication check. For our Year 6 pupils, we have supplied tasks that still relate to these assessments as it will be good for the children to continue revisiting their learning in preparation for secondary school.

The residential trips planned for the summer term are currently under review and it is possible that we will just postpone them to a later date to ensure that the children still get the opportunity and experience. With the Year 6 London trip, this is more complicated as you can appreciate so we will be in contact again with more details about this.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with 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 the school office.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

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

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Jodie Flynn

Headteacher