



19th March 2020.

Re: Coronavirus update - school closure to most pupils

Following on from our last update, we are now writing to let you know that **we have been** instructed to close both schools 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 such as NHS workers and police officers, although this list is still to be confirmed by the Government; children with Education Health Care Plans and those supported by social workers.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but you must let us know by Friday lunchtime, 12 noon (12 pm) if you think you may fall into one of these categories and anticipate sending your child to school. This is so that we can plan effectively for the safety and wellbeing of the children who might be in school from next week onwards. Please telephone the school office and let them know:

- Your child's name and class
- Your role as a key worker
- Your most up to date contact details including phone number and email address
- What days and times you need your child to attend school

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 updating the schools' websites and text message.

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

Your child's learning is of course important to us, and we have made packs available to all children so that they can continue with their learning at home. In addition, you will find a range of links to appropriate websites on the schools' websites.

If your child is eligible for free school meals

We will be in touch with parents who are eligible for free school meals by text message and via the websites with more information about how we will continue to provide meals.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us 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.

Remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS 111 online. If you not have access to this online, current advice is to telephone 111.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will continue to update you as more information becomes available.

Kind regards,

Rob Meadows Headteacher of Sladefield

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Sue Simmons Headteacher of Thornton