



# Meopham Community Academy

Part of the Pathway Academy Trust

Headteacher: Miss R Nicholson

*Enjoy, Learn, Aspire*

20th March, 2020

## Coronavirus: required closure-23.03.20

Dear Meopham Families,

As per new and current guidance from Government, in addition to our letter of yesterday; schools are **being closed with effect from today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**, to the majority of pupils to assist with the fight against the Coronavirus and in the interests of public health.

Schools are however being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children – those who are vulnerable (children with EHCP plans or with social workers) and for children whose parents are **Key workers**. The list of jobs which fall under the category of Key Worker are available by accessing the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We would ask that you only send these children if necessary and that everyone's main priority should be achieving the social distancing that will protect our community.

**If you wish to access this service please see page 2 of this letter and email the school office as soon as possible today;** stating your profession, employer name and the supervision required so that you can work. This will be treated with full confidentiality. It would be helpful if pupils coming into school could bring a packed lunch as service in the refectory will be minimal.

**All other children will be required to stay at home, we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards until further notice.**

We understand that other workers may also be frustrated with having to balance child care and work. However, this provision will only be for the professions as named. This is in order to ensure front line workers are not impacted by closure. Therefore, regrettably, we will not be able to consider requests from parents from other professions, to provide supervision for their children and cannot respond to these requests.

Our priority is to provide continuity of learning for all of our pupils and to minimise the impact of our closure. The system has worked well so far and any small operational issues will be tackled as they arise.

All of our teachers are working a normal day from home and are working online to support pupils in their learning. Your child will be expected to continue with their education at home during the closure period. Our online home learning materials are available on the website for pupils to use and continue their learning, despite the school closure, in addition to the CGP books sent home earlier this week.

Please remember that from Monday staff will be working during office hours and will not be able to answer emails or communications from students/parents outside of these hours

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**Tel:** 01474 812259 **Email:** office@meophamca.com **Web:** www.meophamca.com

**Address:** Longfield Road, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0JW

(09:00 - 16:00). This is to ensure communications are managed effectively and do not become overwhelming.

We will be working with Premier Sport to provide details of Easter Holiday provisions that will be organised locally for key worker children. Again, once we know, we will update straight away.

If you are in receipt of **Free School Meals (FSM)**, this will involve us providing a packed lunch for collection to those in receipt of FSM. **Please see below** to assist us with the planning of this, in advance.

**\*For Keyworkers and families of vulnerable children:**

To enable us to staff the school appropriately and plan for provision of meals at this time, please **urgently inform us** if your family circumstances **do not** allow for your child to be appropriately cared for at home while the school is not fully operational, due to the COVID-19 outbreak and therefore intend to send your child/children into school.

If one parent is a keyworker, it is expected that the other will stay at home to care for your child. If you are a part time keyworker, we will only be able to provide provision on a part time basis.

Please also inform us if you would also look to access holiday clubs during the official school holidays.

**If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child will not be in school.**

**\*For families in receipt of free school meals:**

To enable us to plan for provision of meals at this time, please **urgently inform us** if your child/children will be collecting a free school meal during school closure.

**If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child will not require a meal.**

In the meantime if any family experiences a need or difficulty, please contact the school office and we will do our very best to support you at this difficult time.

This is clearly an unprecedented situation but we will continue to ensure that we do the very best for the pupils at Meopham Community Academy. Please keep checking your emails and the school website for any updates we may send out over the coming weeks.

**Please 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.

Mrs Martin

Head of School

Meopham Community Academy