

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my letter yesterday, I am writing to update you one how we are responding to the [Government's guidance on the closure of educational settings](#).

As you may be aware, schools are asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children from next week - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. However the Government has also made it clear that every child who can be safely cared for at home should be in order to support with social distancing and therefore reduce the impact of the virus.

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#). As you would imagine, we have clear lists of who this includes and we will be making contact with you to discuss the education provision for your child.

Children of Key Workers

The Government has requested that schools remain open for pupils whose parents are Key Workers and they have just sent out [guidance](#) about which roles fall within that definition. The list includes parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response such as those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors.

Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home and as our pupils are secondary-aged then you may consider that your child is suitably competent to remain at home unsupervised. This is entirely up to you as parents. Please refer to my letter from 19th March regarding the online activities that all pupils are expected to complete.

If your role does fall within the definition of a Key Worker and you wish your child to attend school during the closure, please can you email the school at the following address: keyworker@kingswolverhampton.co.uk **by 6pm on Sunday 22nd March**. Please also note that you should not send your child into school if they, or anyone in your household, is displaying symptoms of the virus. This is really important.

Children with EHCPs

The Learning Support Team have been in contact with parents of children who have EHCPs to ascertain whether they would like their child to receive support in school during the closure. If the situation changes at any point during the enforced closure, please can you contact Mr Sutton at p.sutton@kingswolverhampton.co.uk so that we can ensure that your child is supported.

Free school meals

This information relates to **free school meal children only**:

Telephone: 01902 558333 Email: admin@kingswolverhampton.co.uk
twitter.com/kingsschoolwlv - facebook.com/kingswolverhampton



It is important during a virus epidemic that pupils eat healthily. Some families may be able to provide their child with a lunch when they are not in school, however, should you wish your child to receive a school lunch whilst the school is closed, please email Mr Lingard – freeschoolmeals@kingswolverhampton.co.uk before 6pm on Sunday evening for the following week. Mr Lingard will inform you of the arrangements for collecting the lunch.

If you are worried about providing your child with a meal during the period of closure, please can you email Mr Lingard; similarly, if you have difficulties accessing food banks or similar support services, please can you make school aware. The Government yesterday announced a voucher scheme which we are now pursuing so that we are able to support families whose children are in receipt of free school meals. More details on this will be sent out when we have them.

GCSE and A Level examinations

At the moment, we do not have information from the examination boards about what schools need to do now that this year's examinations have been cancelled. As soon as we receive any information in this regard, we will contact Year 11 and 13 pupils and parents and also make the updated information available on the school website.

We understand that this is a very worrying time for pupils in these year groups but we would like to reassure Year 11 pupils in particular that this decision will not disadvantage them in their application for a place in our 6th form. We will support them in every way possible and ensure that they can enrol onto courses of their choice in our 6th form in September.

Pupil well-being

The impact of self-isolation on mental well-being has been widely covered in the media. We are concerned about the well-being of pupils whose mental health may make them more vulnerable at a time like this. There are a number of resources available on the school website together with contact numbers of agencies who can offer support.

If your child currently receives 1:1 counselling support from Hope counselling in school, these sessions will continue as normal as long as your child is able to attend school and is not showing any symptoms of COVID-19. We will call you during the week to confirm the time of the Friday morning appointment. If your child has previously received support from Hope counselling then we will be offering a phone conversation to 'check in' and signpost them to additional support if necessary.

The school safeguarding team will assume responsibility for any pupils who require support and will remain in regular contact with these pupils during the period of closure. You can contact the school safeguarding team directly by emailing our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Sutton p.sutton@kingswolverhampton.co.uk or calling 07989323101.

All pupils - completing work during the school closure

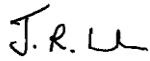
Please refer to my letter dated 19.03.20 for information about the work that is being set for pupils during the closure period.

Please remember that your child should not be out and about during school hours and if work is not completed, your child's Head of Year may contact you to establish the reason for non-completion and to complete a safe and well check.

Please ensure that you check the school website regularly during term time (at least weekly) so that you are aware of key information that the school needs to share with you and your child should check their school email account each day.

I hope that this information is helpful and I wish you and your families well during, what is inevitably, a very worrying time for all.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the initials 'J. R. U.' written in a cursive style.

Mr J. Ludlow
Principal