

19/03/20

Dear Parents/Carer

Firstly I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our whole school family for the wonderful support over the last few days. I have very much valued the understanding shown by all and have been overwhelmed by the support.

Without a doubt, this has been the most challenging time in my ten years here at the Acorn Trust and its schools. I am desperate to get it right for everyone but each day brings a new challenge.

The government have announced that schools are to close for all pupils apart from those whose parents work as key workers and for those classed as vulnerable children. We were hoping guidance would come today from the government with regards a definition for key workers and whether it affected one or two parents, as well as suggested opening hours - however we are still waiting this information.

We are also awaiting a little more guidance on free school meals and how this will work. Our first thoughts is that our catering company will provide a pack lunch for FSM children that can be picked up from the school.....but again we are awaiting on further guidance as know this may not work for those of you who as a family are isolating.

We have started to plan how the opening of our schools for the groups of children identified will work and hope to update you all soon. To help us plan numbers, and until the government provides further guidance, we will be sending out an email tomorrow morning to help identify those who may be affected.

Schools are busy preparing activities for the children who remain at home to complete. Packs will be sent home where possible and information updated on our website at regular intervals throughout the closure. Communication between parent and teachers will continue through class Dojo.

I would like to finish this letter by saying how incredibly proud I am of our whole school community who have faced the recent challenges with the resilience and determination that the Acorn Trust is known for. The pupils, staff, parents and Governors have been amazing.

I am so sorry that total clarity is not possible at this time, but I promise that we will all do our very best for you all

Kind Regards



Julie-Ann Hewitt

