



Eastway Primary School
Rossall Road
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 8TA

Headteacher: Mrs Emily Morris

☎: 0151 677 1235
✉: schooloffice@eastway.wirral.sch.uk
🌐: eastway-primary.eschools.co.uk

19th March 2020

Re: Coronavirus Update- School Closure

Dear Parents/ Carers,

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 tomorrow, Friday 20th March until further notice**. This is to reduce the spread of the virus as much as possible by reducing the numbers of children and staff in schools to a minimum. We are all in complete shock and are heartbroken that we have not been able to avoid this situation.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open with a skeleton staff for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services), children with an EHCP and children with a named social worker to provide emergency childcare to those who must work during this period of crisis.

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 be in one of these categories. You can do this by completing the form below. **Both parents/carers will need to be key workers unless you are a single key worker parent.** We'll be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to and will require proof of employment. Some parents whose children fall in to these categories may be able to make arrangements for their children not to be in school and this is helpful as it is important that we reduce numbers as far as possible.

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.

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

Your child's learning and their wellbeing is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help you and your child by:

- Updating and adding information to the school website, Twitter and Facebook pages to guide parents to useful activities that can be done at home
- We have a designated email account for any Home Learning related queries, homelearning@eastway.wirral.sch.uk
- Our Class Teachers will update their class page on the school website to outline daily learning tasks and fun activities to complete at home
- Our pastoral team will upload information on dealing with the situation and managing mental health and wellbeing
- Our SEN team will assist in social stories and structuring a daily routine and support for additional needs

If your child is entitled free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced that will enable us to issue vouchers in the future. It is our understanding at this time, that vouchers will only be provided for pupils with a registered entitlement to FSM.

This is as much as we know at the moment 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 this is a national emergency. We will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

It is important that you continue to follow advice on self-isolation if any members of your family show symptoms. You must maintain the full 14 day period of isolation to ensure that children are not sent back into school before this.

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

If you feel that your role is a key worker or your children is classed as vulnerable, please email the following to me on homelearning@eastway.wirral.sch.uk by 12 noon tomorrow:

Name of pupil:

Class:

Phone Number:

I believe I am a key worker employed as:

Place of employment:

I believe my children fall in to the category of vulnerable because:

I do / do not require a childcare place (please delete as applicable)

In addition, please bear in mind that this childcare provision for key workers will remain subject to the school having sufficient staff available to enable them to remain open.

I have been completely overwhelmed by the love, kindness, generosity and respect that you have all shown to us at this time. It has been a privilege to lead the school through this unprecedented and complex period and I could not have done so without our amazing children, families and staff. I would like to praise the absolute dedication and hard work of my team during this time, I have never felt prouder.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can. This is such a challenging time for us all and we wish you and your families good health in the difficult weeks ahead. We will miss you all so much and have tried our best to maintain a calm and orderly school to the very end. We hope that your children will all have wonderful memories of their last few days with us.

Love and best wishes,

EMorris

Mrs Emily Morris
Headteacher