



Holtsmere End Schools

19.3.20

Dear Parents,

I am sure that you are already aware that the Government has declared that all schools are to shut on **Friday 20th March**.

Whilst we understand and wholly support the Government's decision it is our job to educate and care for your children and sadly we will not be able to do that 'until further notice'.

However, the government has advised that schools should remain open if care is needed for children who have an EHCP, are in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant and/or have a dedicated social worker. We will contact the parents of these children directly today via telephone.

Jointly we will also provide care, if required for children of 'Key workers'. Whilst the government has not yet released a definitive list for these circumstances; that will come later today, we believe these to be:

- Clinical National Health Service staff (except doctors and dentists)
- Teachers and nursery nurses
- Police officers, Community Support Officers and some civilian police staff
- Prison officers and some other Prison staff
- Probation Service staff
- Social workers, educational psychologists, and therapists
- Local Authority Planners
- Firefighters
- Connexions Personal Advisers
- Some Ministry of Defence personnel
- Environmental Health Officer
- Highway Agency Traffic Officers

We also believe that supermarket workers and delivery drivers will also be added to the list.

We would be grateful that if you fall into this category and require childcare during the closure that you call your school's office before **12 noon on Friday 20th March on 01442 211963 or 253189 or email admin@holtsmereinfants.herts.sch.uk or admin@holtsmerejm.herts.sch.uk** in order for us to plan staffing, catering and activities.

Whilst our schools are shut for the vast majority of children we will remain in contact via the school App (Infants) and Facebook (Juniors).

If you do have any concerns during the closure please continue to call or email your school's office and we will endeavour to help you.

The 'Home learning' page on the website continues to be updated and home learning packs are being sent home for all children on Friday. If you are currently self-isolating please arrange for someone to pick a pack up for your child from the office before Friday.

These are unprecedented and uncertain times. The entire Holtsmere Schools team hope that you and your families remain safe and well and we look forward to welcoming you back to school in the hopefully near future.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Nicola O'Connell
Headteacher (Infants)

Mrs Emma McGuigan
Headteacher (Juniors)

