

Ruislip Gardens Primary School



1st April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: School closure

I hope that this update finds parents/carers and families safe and well. As we all come to terms with these difficult times, I hope that we can all find ways to adapt and to continue to promote positive wellbeing.

I am writing to let you know that RGS will continue to be open for children of key workers and vulnerable children after the Easter break. All schools in England will remain closed for the majority of pupils until further notice. Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home must be.

Children whose parents are key workers include:

- Doctors, nurses, midwives and paramedic staff
- Workers in the health and social care supply chain
- Producers and distributors of medicine and medical and personal protective equipment
- Social workers
- Care workers
- Teachers and support staff
- Childminders
- Nursery staff
- Health care assistants and administrators (in GP practices/clinics)
- Emergency services staff (police, fire)
- Military families
- Delivery drivers
- Supermarket workers
- Key public services e.g. management of the deceased, justice system, journalists and broadcasters
- Workers in local and national government
- Transport workers
- Financial service workers
- Utilities workers (post, gas, water, electricity, sewerage)

School will also remain open for vulnerable children. This includes:

- Children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- Children who are known to a social worker

If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever



possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.

If you are a parent of a vulnerable child or a key worker with a child at Ruislip Gardens, please share this information with us by completing the google form **by 9am on Friday 3rd April**. It is important to have an indication of pupil numbers to ensure there are enough staff available to supervise them. I do appreciate that some NHS staff or military workers may not always know their shifts in advance and that these can change at the last minute. Please rest assured that if you have indicated you need a place for your child/children we will always do our best to accommodate changes at the last minute. These are uncertain times and being flexible and accommodating is our way of supporting you as key workers. **Please only complete the google form if you cannot work from home and you have no other way of looking after your child at this time. The link to the google form is:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOpTNatjZ78tkbg1lhuRdtFrPvo-k91rozDwWPrXb4U4aIVg/viewform>

Please note our school kitchen will no longer be operational after the holidays so if your child is in school, you will need to provide them with a packed lunch (no nuts). Please also continue to send your child to school with a piece of fruit for morning break and their own water bottle.

Unfortunately, Smarty's have had to make the difficult decision not to run breakfast and after school club from Monday 20th April. Therefore, the school day will run from 8:30am – 3:15pm.

This is an extremely difficult situation which impacts us all, but we must follow government guidance to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of everyone and prevent further spread of the virus. Government guidance states:

Stay at home

- *Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)*
- *If you go out, stay 2m (6ft) away from other people at all times*
- *Wash your hands as soon as you get home*

Do not meet others, even friends or family

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

The government continue to advise that children should not be left with older grandparents or older relatives who may be particularly vulnerable to the Coronavirus. However, if there is an older child or adult at home, that can safely look after your child, then they should stay at home.

As soon as we have an official date to re-open, I will communicate this with you via email and via the school website.

Thank you for the messages of thanks and support that we have received since school has been closed. All the staff appreciate them.

Yours faithfully,



Miss S O'Neill
Deputy Head