



.....putting Every Child Matters into Action

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School closure updates 19th March 10.20am

Dear parents / carers,

You are aware that this is a rapidly changing situation and as best we can, Longwell Green aims to keep you up to date with all information we have as quickly as we have it.

At present, we have no new information above what was released during last night's briefings. The Local Authority and schools are awaiting more information from the Government to be able to draw up a concrete plan to share with you. We know that Government's priorities are rightly ensuring that we are able to care for those in need through NHS and Police support and to ensure that supply chains remain open, and as schools, we will do everything we can to support for our community and the wider needs of the country.

To that end, we can guarantee that on Monday to pupils of Keyworker adults and pupils with EHCPs only, Longwell Green will be open as usual during the standard school day.

We have yet to receive clarification on who is classed as a Keyworker and as soon as we do, we will share this with you. This link from the BBC gives as much information as is official.

Although lots of news outlets are drawing up their own potential lists, the only official information in terms of keyworkers is here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51956279>

Monday, for pupils of Keyworkers only will be a standard school day; 8.45 to 3.15.

All school staff will be in school, manning their usual posts. This includes Lunch Break Supervisors, Teaching Assistants, Office Staff, Cleaners and Caretaking staff, and all of the teaching staff that work on Mondays. We have ensured that we have all of the resources we need to continue to run school, including sufficient food for lunches and provisions such as toilet roll and soap!

We will open our Breakfast and After School club also for pupils of Keyworkers and pupils with EHCPs during the usual hours on Monday, but will review this depending on the numbers of pupils attending (it could potentially be none, we just don't know), and we will keep you informed if this changes after Monday.

Although we know the numbers of pupils we have with EHCPs, it is not clear if all families will want their children to attend after Friday. As such we doubt that as a school we will have had time to gather the numbers of pupils expected on Monday before we close on Friday, this is in no small part down to the fact that if lists of Keyworkers are not published until Friday and the probability that they will include unexpected groups schools such as lorry drivers (as discussed in last night briefing) and potentially other groups that we have not yet been made aware of, we will not be able to get this out to you all and confirm numbers before the weekend. To ensure we are ready for an unknown number of pupils of Keyworkers and with EHCPs, we will continue business as normal until we know otherwise.



To quote the BBC article "Education Secretary Gavin Williamson told BBC Breakfast that the Cabinet Office will release the full list of key workers later and parents not on the list will be "immediately aware" their child won't be offered a place in school."

I am sharing this level of detail with you to explain why we are not yet able to give further details, but will do as soon as we know more.

To be clear, as soon as the Keyworker list becomes available, we will immediately share this with you.

We still aim to provide further information as soon as we are able to, but can only do this as quickly as it is shared with us.

For those of you who are Keyworkers and / or have pupils with EHCPs, if you choose to send your children, it will be school as usual on Monday.

Thank you in advance for all of your support and on behalf of everyone at Longwell Green I wish you all luck with the challenges each of us are going to face personally and professionally in the coming weeks. I know that in supporting each other, we can make some of the more challenging aspects slightly less challenging for each other. Stay well and we look forward to having the full complement of Longwell Green Primary School back together again in the near future.

Darren Brown
Headteacher