



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Families,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure

As stated yesterday, **we have been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.** Further information has now been published regarding those children who could continue to attend school. This includes vulnerable children (e.g. who are supported by social care); children with Education and Health Care Plans (where there is no underlying health care need) and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

The government writes that: '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 should be.**' Numbers are expected to be kept at a minimum so that the spread of the virus can be contained as far as possible.

The full list from the latest government information is below –

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should **confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.**

Please can all parents complete the survey using the following link by 1 pm. You do not need to contact the school office unless stated on the survey.

BHJS

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JUUsrfCLjsEqTVLApi5DMR6sOQ3FRdC5HnYF9LLcnhv5UQUFCVFRYSVE3NDIHVTdPQkJEMkRWSVROQi4u>

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<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JUUsrfCLjsEqTVLApi5DMR3d5mVckTZRDhENTyhkNlRpURVJDUDVNWEtKMEpNR0MxUDZOWjc1TDRISi4u>

Thank you in advance for your prompt response. We will continue to work together whether in school or at home during this challenging time.

Kind Regards,

Tina Long and Abigail Hodger

Headteachers at BHIS and BHJS