

19 March 2020

Dear parent/carers,

### **Covid-19 School Update**

I hope you are all well and are managing with this very upsetting and challenging time as well as you can.

Following on from my last update, I'm writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice**. I am devastated to be closing the school to most students and staff. Our school is an amazing place of safety and education, and we will all struggle to be away from each other during this time.

As advised by the government, we will do all that we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police and others in frontline services) and children with certain needs.

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 qualify as being that of a key worker and you wish them to be in school during the closure. Please email [office@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:office@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk) by ideally 4pm on Friday 20 March 2020.

**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. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by text message, a full announcement on the school website and official letter.

### **What we will continue doing while your child is at home:**

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. We will be expecting them to work at home every day.

We will be setting work via the [DPR](#) for you to be able to check assignments and to check if they have completed this work. There is much more information available to help you monitor your child's work and to explain what this will look like [here](#) on our website. Please [find attached](#), a help sheet you can keep to hand if needed.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will be offering you a Morrisons voucher every fortnight to help you through this difficult time. If you are struggling to feed your family during the school closure period but you don't normally have free school meals please contact us and we will be able to help you.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and is far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

I will keep up my text messages, although they will become less frequent and I will email you the Heartlands Blog once a week to keep you up to date.

Whilst the school is closed, our duty and responsibility to safeguarding our pupils remains. Our regular "check ins" with families needing a bit of extra help and support will continue throughout the period of school closure, just as if the school was open. Please do not feel offended if a member of school staff calls to check in with you, and to speak to your child. If you have any safeguarding concerns whilst the school is closed, for your child or for any other pupil from the school, please contact Ms Attreed: [jodie.attreed@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:jodie.attreed@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk)

If you have any queries or concerns you'd like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us via email: [office@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:office@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk)

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

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can. I am thinking of you all and we urge you to please get in touch if you need anything.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ER' followed by a horizontal line.

Elen Roberts  
Headteacher