



Confirmation of school closure letter – 19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

You will be aware that the Prime Minister and Education Secretary announced yesterday that tomorrow will be the last full 'normal' day of school. Schools will close indefinitely from Friday 20th March 2020 for **MOST** children. Schools are to remain open for children whose parents are identified as 'key workers'. The government will make an announcement later today to identify precisely which groups of workers this will be. However, we do know that the following groups have been identified:

- NHS workers
- Police
- Teachers
- Critical national infrastructure roles such as delivery drivers

While we wait to hear the exact identification of roles, we would like to take a proactive approach and begin to identify those pupils whose parents are classed as 'key workers' and are likely to need to continue attending school. If you believe you fall into one of these groups please contact us at: admin@shprimary.org.uk by **Friday lunchtime**, so we can be prepared for next week. You can ring the school office too on 0191 2746695, but please note that the lines are busy and email is the easiest way of letting us know.

We will be working with our vulnerable families, pupils who have an EHCP, and pupils with social workers to identify those children who would need to continue accessing school.

With the deepest regret, only those children that fall into the categories identified by the government will be able to attend school. We ask for your understanding and consideration of this.

We will continue to update parents via email and will ensure our website remains a helpful tool to support online learning. Our office email will remain active for any queries.

We are working with the local authority to support children eligible for free school meals, and we will inform you how this will be organised by Friday.

We await further government guidance on the proposal to suspend public examinations (in our case, the Phonics Screen and End of Key Stage One and Key Stage Two SATS) for this academic year.

This is understandably going to cause many anxieties for families, and we hope that we will be able to continue to support you wherever possible. We will continue to keep you informed with any new information as we receive it, in what are incredibly difficult and uncertain times.

With our very best wishes,

Barbara Brown
Head Teacher