

Hartsfield JMI School

Clothall Road, Baldock SG7 6PB
<http://www.hartsfield.herts.sch.uk>



Telephone: 01462 895267
Email: Admin@hartsfield.herts.sch.uk

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children from 3.15 pm on Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, 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 fall into one of these categories.

Please email into admin@hartsfield.herts.sch.uk or phone the school office after 10.00 AM this morning. Information required initially will be:

- Which key worker category/ other category
- Projected need for the next 4 weeks
- Packed lunch/ school lunch required (maybe a cold lunch)
- Before or after school care access needed (we can then liaise with Great Group etc.)

Please note that we will only be open from Monday 23rd March 2020 for the categories shared by the Government.

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'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by email, the school website and via the Everbridge system.

What we'll 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 have already set up a home learning page on the website under the 'Parents' section. We will update the resources for each class each week until we reopen.

<http://www.hartsfield.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning+Resources&pid=185>

Class emails can be used if children wish to send in work completed electronically but the expectation is that teachers may respond only with a short message rather than full 'marking'. This is where parents and pupils can find work set for them, such as in a resource pack or on a website.



We will continue to access the school admin email address throughout our closure so this should be the main form of contact with the school. Although there will be staff in school, we want to limit the physical interaction therefore please email.

If your child usually receives **free school meals** we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

In the days ahead we will update you all on **residential trips** but the assumption at the moment is that these and all other trips and activities for the next few weeks will not go ahead therefore please do not make any further payments. We will speak to providers over the next couple of weeks to discuss refunds etc.

From the information shared yesterday, assessments including **SATs** will not go ahead and I imagine that the class teachers will be asked to provide their teacher assessment later in the summer term.

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

In the meantime, thank you to everyone for their support and to all for their hard work and commitment in such troubling times.

As a community, Hartsfield are amazing- parents, carers, staff, governors and of course the children. We will get through this temporary phase and will likely be stronger and more resilient in the long term.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Kind regards



Philippa Smith (Mrs.)

Headteacher

