

Haselworth Primary School

Stone Lane, Gosport, Hampshire, PO12 1SQ Tel 023 92583657

Email: adminoffice@haselworth.hants.sch.uk Website: www.haselworth.hants.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mrs N. Jones BA Ed (Hons) NPQH Chair of Governors: Dr C. Roast School Business Manager: Mrs M. Leask

Thursday 20th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: School Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

Haselworth Primary School will be closed from Monday 23rd March 2020 until further notice.

The government has stated:

The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.

It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

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.

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.



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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.

Further information can be accessed by following this link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

We are planning to open a section of the school for the children of those who are confirmed key workers and vulnerable children. This will be an optional provision for these families only. Staff who are well enough will be working from home or on site depending upon the number of children in school and their role within the school. Further updates on how this provision will run will be given soon.

Breakfast Club will run from 7.45am as usual but it will take place in the Ladybird's room for key worker's children only. There will be no Ladybirds Club when the day finishes at 3pm. Children will need to enter via the reception both for Breakfast Club and to attend school. They will be registered by the Admin Team and then escorted to a classroom. Children will be collected from outside reception at the end of the day. The only gate which will be open is the pedestrian entrance on Mayfield Road. Further updates on lunch time arrangements will follow today.

However, the school remaining open will be constantly reviewed depending upon staffing arrangements and the availability of supplies. Safeguarding staff and pupils is paramount.



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This provision will not be 'school as usual' but a child care arrangement. School rules and usual safeguarding procedures still apply. Key workers will need to provide the school with proof of current employment. Please provide this evidence to the Admin Team located in the office.

For pupils who are not in school, who are registered and currently eligible for free school meals (not Universal Infant Free School Meals), we will be issuing weekly food parcels from the **Fruit Basket** in Gosport. The first of which will be available on Friday 20th March. The school will contact you to arrange collection options. This will be for two weeks, funded by the school budget. Further updates will be given as more information is released on the government voucher scheme.

The government has announced that there will be no SATs this academic year. Year 6 have worked hard and continued learning at home it vital in order to be prepared for secondary school. We will update you on KS1 and KS2 assessment when we have further information. It is likely it will be based on teacher assessment only.

Today, a number of schools have decided to host a 'Gosport Fun Day' at their own schools. This is to ensure that the children have happy memories until we are all back together again when the school officially reopens.

The school will be in regular contact and the adminoffice@haselworth.hants.sch.uk mail box will be monitored. As stated in previous letters, Seesaw and the webpage will be updated with home learning.

Thank you for your understanding and words of support this week. Please look after yourselves and each other.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jones
Headteacher

