

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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Principal: Mrs A Harrison

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure the announcement made by the Prime Minister, where he confirmed that the school will close to almost all children after this Friday and until further notice, has been as difficult for you to digest as it has for me and my dedicated staff team. We had obviously anticipated this was likely to happen, but having the situation confirmed, and then facing the reality of what this means, will be difficult for some.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and children with certain needs. We are still waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help in the meantime, that if you feel this applies to you, that you reply to the text message you would have received this morning by emailing [admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk). We can then send you the form you will need to complete if you are eligible to book our provision. This needs to be done today please.

We understand that currently the government advice is that if one parent is a key worker and the other not, then the other parent will remain home with the child. In this case scenario, we will not be able to provide provision. This will enable me to effectively plan for the coming weeks and months, with what is likely to be a very depleted staff. We will be in touch if you have further notification as information comes in.

**All other children will need to stay at home, we ask that you do not send your child into school from Tuesday onwards. We will not be able to admit them, and it is your responsibility to ensure they do not come on site during this period of social distancing. We will not be open to any children on Monday whilst we undertake preparation work. We will be restricting site access, closing the main school gate and using the smaller gate on Nixon Drive to access the school only. Please do not come on the school site unless you are attending school. Should you need to speak to anyone, we will be operating an appointment system only, which you can access through the email below.**

I speak on behalf of my entire staff when I say that we will all find the adjustment to our new reality difficult and challenging and all we can do is keep our community spirit and be kind to each other. I will keep you informed constantly via the school website, which we will update regularly.

You may not see us, but we are still here to support you. You can contact us via staff email or through [admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk) but please be mindful that we are very depleted as staff and keep your emails business like and polite. We are doing the very best we can, under very difficult circumstances, and we each have our own personal worries and circumstances we are also trying to manage. Our message is clear – we may not see you, but you are never alone.

**Dream Learn Trust Succeed**



If your child receives free school meals, we will be in touch very shortly to outline how we can try and support.

Finally, I am leaving the school very shortly to take up my second headship back home in Wales and returning to my family. I may not have the opportunity to speak to you before then, so would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, patience and kindness over the five years I have been here. I am leaving with a heavy heart and will always hold a great fondness for this community. Winsford is blessed to have such fabulous young people. I have loved my time here and wish you all nothing but the very best for the future.

Remember – we are here if you need us. Take care of yourselves and your loved ones over the coming months.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Harrison  
Principal