



Sunday 22nd March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for completing your online surveys, as key workers. I am currently going through the list that presently has around 75 pupils' names on it. This number has shocked me as the guidelines from PHE and the DFE state, 'Children with a parent or carer who is listed on the government's [critical worker list](#) should be considered for a school place. However, many parents working in these sectors will be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.'

I am sure that you will agree with me that this is still a very large number of children all gathering together in school, when we are all trying to respect, as much as possible, the principle of social distancing.

School will do as much as we can to support key worker families but I stress, once again, please do not take advantage of our childcare facility. If too many parents use the service and they do not need to do so, there is a greater likelihood that children and staff will spread the virus, especially as we already know it is in Worcestershire. I am sure some of you have already seen the TV footage from northern Italy – we need to act now so that it does not get as severe here in the UK. If school staff become ill, there will be **no service** for anyone and we will have to do a full closure.

Whilst I know that key workers will be relying on school staff to care for their children so that they can carry out frontline work that is vital in the UK managing this deadly virus, please, please, please only send your children in to us as a very last resort.

I would like to reiterate the following points:

- We will only care for your children whilst you are at work.
- If one parent is at home, then the children should be at home with you – they will be safer there.
- If one parent, who is a key worker, is working, the other parent should make every effort to stay at home with the children. I know some of you can work from home or are in a position where your employer can put things in place so that you can do so. Your employer should be do everything they can to enable you to work from home.
- Some of you may be self-employed and be fearful of loss of income. I totally sympathise with you and many of my own family are in this exact same position, but still you need to be at home to care for your child. The whole country will be making sacrifices at this point for the greater good.

If either parent/carer have completed the survey online or you have handed in a paper copy on Friday, then you will be able to bring your child to school on Monday, if you still believe there is no one to look after them.

However, if we have any doubts, whatsoever, about you using this service, we will be talking to you about this on Monday and we may be in a position where we either turn children away or ask them not to use the service on subsequent days.

I really do not want to be policing the whole situation on Monday, but this will only be operational and sustainable if everyone is fair and honest. Judging by the conversations I have had already with many parents and carers, I know you want your children to be totally safe, so you are keeping them at home for the foreseeable future.

If your child has a temperature or a cough, they will not be allowed into school. If your child develops a temperature or a cough during the day they will be immediately sent home.

Arrangements for Monday:

Please remember social distancing at all times, stand at least 2 meters away from other people, including myself and other school staff.

Children will need to enter school through the main playground gate on Monday, where school staff will sign them in and we will check parental working arrangements.

Breakfast club – please arrive at 7:30am and no later than 7:40am as the gate will be locked and there is no other way into school, as we are closed. There is now only one drop off time.

If you are only using the main school hours please arrive by 8:30am and no later than 8:40am as the gate will be locked and there is no other way into school, as we are closed.

At the end of the school day at 3:15pm – children will be dismissed from the playground gate. Parents and Carers are to remain outside of the school grounds again observing the guidance of social distancing.

Children using after school club will need to be collected from the Year 2 block, please knock on the classroom window. No parents or carers are allowed into the school building as you could already have the disease without knowing. Children will be handed out to you. Please keep well back when the door is opened.

Children will need to bring enough food and drinks for their time at school i.e. breakfast (if coming in for breakfast club), snacks, lunch and tea (if they are staying for after school club).

My staff will not be preparing or handling any food, due to risk of contamination.

All fruit and milk deliveries have now ceased.

Hot lunches cannot be provided to school.

Executive Principal:
Mrs Kathryn Brunt
Company No: 9199371

Registered Office:
Henwick Road
Worcester WR2 5NS

T: 01905 423861
F: 01905 420562
E: kbrunt@riverscofe.co.uk

Ensure children have their own drink bottles as we cannot share drinking cups.

Children need to wear school uniform; please ensure they bring a coat.

We are likely to split the children into EYFS/KS1 and KS2 children although this may vary.

We plan to use the 4 newest classrooms which are in the KS1 block as they are the biggest and have direct access to outside areas.

Each night my cleaning staff will be in for 6 hours to ensure the block has been completely cleaned ready for children returning the next morning.

I will email again on Monday and update you on any further arrangements and plans, but please do not hesitate to email the school office, if you have further queries or questions. I will pick these up on Monday and get back to everyone as quickly as I can. I will also be on the playground gates on Monday morning.

I thank you in advance for working with us and co-operating during this really difficult and challenging time. Take care all and please be safe.

Mrs Pierpoint

Head Teacher

Executive Principal:
Mrs Kathryn Brunt
Company No: 9199371

Registered Office:
Henwick Road
Worcester WR2 5NS

T: 01905 423861
F: 01905 420562
E: kbrunt@riverscofe.co.uk