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Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

Most of you will now know that yesterday, the government ordered schools in the UK to close on Friday afternoon until further notice.

I realise this is distressing news for the entire school community and will leave many anxious, but I want to reassure everyone that we have spent a great deal of time preparing for this announcement. I feel very confident we have everything in place to ensure that we continue to support you and your children in the coming weeks and months.

Over today and tomorrow we will plan for how we can offer a service to look after the children of key workers and other children that the government wants us to keep in school. We will do all that we can to remain open for children of key workers (NHS staff, police, frontline services – please see attached list) and children with certain needs. We are waiting for more information from the government with the finer details of this.

In the meantime, you can help by providing the following information:

If you are a key worker and will need your child/ren to continue to attend school from Monday, please email the following information to info@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk by 4pm, if at all possible:

Child's name:

Class:

Your key worker role:

We will ask you for proof of your occupation e.g. ID badge and to provide your employers' contact details. At this point we cannot give you any more details, but we will let you know what our plans are as soon as possible.

All other children will need to stay at home from Monday 23rd March onwards.

There are still no confirmed cases of coronavirus affecting Deptford Park. There are families across the school and some staff following government advice and self-isolating due to a new cough and/or a temperature. Handwashing and additional sanitisation remain a priority.

All staff have worked tirelessly this week to ensure we have 'home learning' arrangements in place. Learning packs and other information will be sent home with children tomorrow. We will work hard to make sure this is a seamless transition for the children. We will be talking to the children about what will happen next to help them to make sense of it all, keep them calm and reassure them.

I am sure that you will join me in thanking all our fantastic staff for working so hard at this difficult time. Some cannot be in school at the moment but are working hard at home.

I want to thank you all for working with us and your continued support for the school at this time.

Yours sincerely

Ken Johnson

headteacher@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Ken Johnson
Deputy Head: Leona Baffour



Examples of key workers:

- Clinical National Health Service staff (doctors, nurses and dentists)
- Teachers and nursery nurses
- Police officers, Community Support Officers and some civilian police staff
- Prison officers and some other Prison staff
- Probation Service staff
- Social workers, educational psychologists, and therapists
- Firefighters
- Armed forces personnel
- Environmental Health Officer
- Delivery drivers
- Supermarket Workers

This list is not definitive but is a guide until the government list is available.