



SMA

Friday, 20 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the announcement from the Government yesterday, this is to confirm that The Boswells School is closed from Monday 23rd March 2020 until further notice, to all pupils with the following exceptions:

- Children who have an EHCP
- Children who have a social worker
- Children of parents/carers classed as 'Key Workers' (please see list of Key Workers over the page)

The Government has directed our school to guide parents using the following principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

If your child falls into one of these categories and you have **no other childcare available** then please complete and submit the form by clicking this link <https://forms.gle/Lk4dDPuw9njo6ey5A> as a matter of urgency. If we do not hear from you by midday on Sunday 22nd March, we will assume that your child will not be attending school. However, if you have any issues with the link, then please call the school either today or Monday. The guidance from the Government is very clear **that children who fall into one of the above categories should only come into school as a last resort if no other childcare is available.**

If your children are at school from Monday 23rd March, please note that the school will not be operating as normal. We will not have a full staff in place and children will be cared for together with a significantly reduced workforce. School will be open from 8.45am and will close at 3.20pm. It is your responsibility to make arrangements to get your child to and from school. There will be a limited food provision available for children to purchase food during the day but children can bring a packed lunch if you choose. If your child is attending school from Monday and they receive Free School Meals, they will still receive this in school. Children are not required to wear school uniform. Please note that the students will be following exactly the same programme of work as students at home. It is not a taught school provision.

I would also like to set out that if your child is attending school from Monday the current Public Health England guidance remains in place. Therefore your child or anyone in your household develops a new, continuous cough and/or has a high temperature you should all self-isolate for 14 days and contact the school to let us know your child will not be attending school.

All other children are to remain at home and not to come into school until further notice. For children at home, our provision for accessing work and our expectations are:

- Work will be set for all students on Show my Homework for every lesson of the week (where this is possible).
- For Year 11 and 13 students, work will continue to be set until we know the Government arrangements on how qualifications will be assessed.
- Work will be available so that students will be able to follow their 'normal' timetable from home. For example, if they have Maths period 1 on a Monday, they will have Maths work that they can do during the times that period 1 would normally take place. This will support students to have a routine and keep up with the curriculum whilst they are not in school.
- If students have particular queries associated with the work, they can contact subject staff by email (email addresses are on the website), but please understand that due to the circumstances it may not be possible to resolve these straight away, although we will aim to ensure a response is received within 48 working hours.

These are incredibly difficult times for everyone and I would like to thank all parents/carers for the support we have received. We will continue to communicate with the whole school community via InTouch emails and on our website over the coming weeks to keep you updated as best as we can.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Mansell
Headteacher

Key Worker list:

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.

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 arm's 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.

