19th March 2020

Dear Parents

**Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils**

Following on from my last update, I’m now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after tomorrow until further notice**.

**As advised by the government, we will be staying open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain Special Educational Needs.**

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories and which category that is e.g. child with an EHCP, parents are health workers, police workers, delivery drivers etc. Please be as specific as possible as we will need to check parents’ occupations against the key worker list that the government is supplying. Please email main@southascotvillageschool.org.uk and we will start to compile a list of affected pupils. If you are unable to email, then please call the school office. We’ll be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to.

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We’ll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is via the school website and through parent mail.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us we deal with this ever-changing situation. I understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it’s far from ideal, but we’ll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you wish to share any concerns, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me, and remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19).

Thank you again for your continued support, and I will be in touch again when I have more clarity about this ever-changing situation.

Yours sincerely

Miss Kate Rimell