

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the Government announcement made yesterday regarding school closure I would like to let you know how this may impact pupils, staff and parents at Haymerle School.

As a provision supporting pupils with education and health care plans we are working hard to follow guidance and remain open.

Over the past few weeks and particularly following yesterday's announcement the availability of our staff is now subject to significant change at very short notice. Many staff have needed to self-isolate, change availability to be able to care for their own children and soon we expect further impact in response to impending changes to public transport.

All of these issues will have a day to day impact on our schools ability to provide safe provision day to day.

What about school closures and staff absence?

In consultation with our Governing Body we have decided to manage our response as follows

- The Senior Leadership team will monitor staff capacity on a daily basis and take any necessary decisions about class or school closure based on the safety and well-being of staff and pupils.
- Where staff capacity is assessed as no longer safe, due to reduced availability of suitably skilled staff, the decision will be made to close a class until the risk can be properly managed.
- Where this is necessary parents will be told to keep their children at home until they are informed that the class is able to reopen.

Please help us to communicate with you

In these difficult and changing times we will do all in our capacity to meet the needs of the pupils and support parents and families.

I appreciate your positive feedback and support and I know, working together, we will manage this difficult and changing situation in the best interests of all concerned.

To secure excellent school to home communication please email the school using the email address and provide the following information

reception@haymerle.southwark.sch.uk

Your email: *(Please provide the email address you would like the school to continue to use)*

Your name:

Your child's full name:

An up to date emergency contact number: (please note as we are experiencing self-isolation you may need to provide alternatives to the current information on our school system)

(Optional) Where appropriate your current profession: e.g. Key Workers (NHS, Police, etc.)

Please do not worry if you are not able to communicate with us by email as we will continue to communicate by telephone, by letter and you find more can look on the school website www.haymerle.southwark.sch.uk.

Absence management concerns?

Please follow the schools procedures for reporting absence. We continue to maintain our commitment to safeguarding our pupils and believe that first day contact when a pupil does not attend school is central to this.

If you need to keep your child off school please follow the usual absence management procedures. Where you are concerned and need to self-isolate as a family report this to the school.

Unauthorised absence should not be a concern if you follow the school current absence management procedures and keep the school informed of reasons for absence. If you have a particular concern please call the school and we will try to return your call on the same day where ever possible.

Worried if you or your child feels unwell?

Please follow the advice and guidance available on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> . As parent / carers/ guardians you will need to make the most appropriate decision at this time in the best interest of each child and your whole family. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope that you have found the answers to some of your questions. If not please contact the school office and we will try to help or sign post where the answers may be found. We are committed to ongoing weekly updates over the course of this current difficult situation. Please check book bags and the website on a regular basis.

Working together we will continue to support and safeguard your children.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding should we have to make any difficult decisions about possible temporary class closures.

Yours Faithfully

Liz Nolan

Head teacher