



William Penn School
'Living, Laughing and Learning Together'

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Coronavirus Update

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Currently we are awaiting further clarification on a number of points made in the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the closure of schools yesterday and how this will look in practice. In the meantime, we have been asked by West Sussex County Council to gather some information regarding pupils who may be in certain groups (as yet to be absolutely defined).

Please read the local authority 'working' definition of these groups below:

Group 1:

- *Children of parents who are critical workers in health, care, emergency services. This would include medical staff, adult care workers, social workers adults and children, police, fire and paramedic staff;*
- *Children of teachers, teaching assistants and essential school-based staff required to keep schools open and operational;*
- *Children specifically identified by Children's Services as priorities to be in school*
- *Children who are vulnerable but whose particular needs only come to light through parent communication.*

Group 2:

- *Children who are in receipt of pupil premium or who qualify for a free school meal;*
- *Children with elderly carers;*
- *Children with special educational learning needs but who do not have to isolate due to medical vulnerabilities in accordance with Public Health guidelines.*

If you think that your child falls in to these categories, please inform the school office as soon as possible so that we can pass numbers to the local authority. This will inform future plans for the school and the county as a whole in terms of providing ongoing safe provision for these children. If you fall in to these categories but your child will not be in school, please let us know that this is your decision so that we can ensure adequate staffing ratios.

At this stage and given adequate staffing, the school will be open from Monday 23rd March for children that fall in to these categories, providing that they are fit and well and not displaying symptoms of a new persistent cough or temperature. Subsequent changes to location of provision are possible but unknown at this stage.

Thank you for your continuing understanding.
Yours sincerely,

Stephen Kear
Headteacher