



KH/YM

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Arrangements for partial closure – from Monday 23rd March 2020

I am writing to inform you of arrangements for school closure in light of the announcement earlier today by the Department for Education. The guidance makes it clear that parents should keep their children at home to limit the chance of the virus spreading. This guidance reinforces that families, even those of key workers, should **'keep their children at home, wherever possible'** and are asking schools **'to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend'**.

The government also reminds the public that **'the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society'**.

However, schools are required to stay open for those students who need to attend. In this way, schools will play a very important role in supporting other sectors of the country at this very difficult time. Brookfield will remain open for the following groups:

1. **Vulnerable children** (those who have their own social worker and those who are on an Education and Health Care plan).
2. **Children of workers in critical sectors** – where parents who fall into these categories cannot keep children safe at home, these children will be priorities and offered a place at school during the period of the closure. Details of the critical sectors where this applies can be found at the link below:

Critical workers: www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision

FAQs for parents: www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers

As a school we have identified students that fall into the categories above and invited parents to take up a place. Parents do not have to accept this place if they can offer safe place at home.

If you feel your child qualifies for a place, please consider the statements below:

- You are a key worker and there is no alternative to socially distance your child.
- Your child has an EHCP.

If you **have not already contacted us** about this and you feel you may qualify for a place for your child, please email enquiries@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk giving full details



For students given a place, the school day will take the following format:

- Timing of school day: 8.30-15.00
- Students should wear full school uniform and bring their PE kit
- Normal school rules will apply
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided (free for students)
- Lessons will be mainly in computer rooms with students working independently on 'Show My Homework'
- Students will not have their regular teachers
- Afternoon – range of different activities will take place.

Work for students not in school

Most students will be working from home and will be completing work set by teachers using '**Show My Homework**'. All students have login details and are familiar with this platform. Work will be set and, where appropriate, marked by teachers.

For students in Years 11 and 13, the work will be targeted and based on examination content and preparation. You will be aware that GCSE and A Level examinations have now been cancelled for this summer. However, we still believe that students will benefit from having the structure and activity provided by the work set, as well as the remote contact with their teacher. As we do not yet know how qualifications will be awarded, we urge all students to engage with our online learning provision.

As and when further information or guidance is received from the DfE, this will be communicated to parents. All staff at Brookfield are looking forward to the resumption of normal school activity. Times like this remind us of the importance of our own health and wellbeing, and that of family and friends.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Mr K Hirst
Headteacher