Dear Parents,

Today ‘Fordham All Saints Primary school’ shuts its gates for the foreseeable future. The ‘school’ will cease to run from that moment.

On Monday, we will be providing a childcare facility for the very few, who NEED the help.

There will not be classes

There will be no ‘lessons’

It will not be curriculum and assessment

It will not be ‘teachers’ and ‘TAs’

It will not be school as you know it.

There will be opportunity for home learning time

There will be ‘spaces’ in school

There will be adults in those ‘spaces’

It will be childcare

As already mentioned, we will continue to provide care for a limited number of children. This has been set by the government as a maximum of 20% - around 27 of our children. It goes without saying that 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.

This will require us to prioritise which pupils receive an offer, according to greatest need.

This is not about ‘entitlement’ it is about doing the right thing for the greater good of society; accommodating the greatest need and limiting social interaction and the spread of the virus - allowing school to stay open for those who need it the most.

If you have asked for provision and on reflection now feel that you can use alternative care please contact the school immediately.

  What will provision look like in school?

This is a very different type of provision than schools usually provide; for these pupils, it will be about care, not education. This is about keeping children safe and allowing key workers to go to work and care for the sick, or to keep food supply chains moving.

Can the school still decide they need to close?

It remains the case that if we do not have enough staff to care for pupils safely (even based on the new ‘reduced provision’ approach’) then, subject to a risk assessment and consultation with the chair of governors, a full or partial closure may be necessary. We will review the situation daily.

**Again, fewer children making the journey, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread to staff and therefore allow the facility to remain open.**

Please keep your children at home if possible. **If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**

Planning and timetabling.

As the situation develops i will be taking a four- phase approach to keep up with the changing situation and guidance:

1. Monday 23rd March
2. The next two weeks
3. Easter holidays

4. The summer term.

Schools have been put in a very difficult position by the recent announcements. There is a very real sense of ‘managing the best we can’ with the staff available, and this will be ever changing.

The key message is that schools are closed, but we are doing what we can to support our families, given these unprecedented circumstances.

Please remember that these measures do not allow the option for my staff (and their families), and your children, to socially distance- which is recommended. Please be mindful of this in your decisions. I have been always mindful of this in mine, which is why this is only available to children which follow the criteria set out below- allowing the school to stay open to those who need it the most, with NO OTHER OPTION.

Priority order-

1. vulnerable pupils, EHCP, looked after children, with no care option at home.
2. parents who are BOTH key workers or single parent key worker families
3. children where only one parent is a key worker

I must stress that **options 1 & 2 are the priority** for the available places. I aim to collate information via the form attached and contact all who qualify today.

This childcare facility will be for your working weekdays only from 8.45-3.15, children will be required to bring a packed lunch and they are to be signed in and out of the club each day. Children are to arrive on Monday at the school office for 8.45

Please stay at home and practice social distancing where possible on the other days when not in to minimise risk. My staff will be putting themselves and their families at risk to look after yours, so that you can help others too and we can get through this together. It is now that we need to make tough decisions and support our community by following advice and guidance.

Thank you to all who are working hard to support our community and the most vulnerable in our society; especially those in the NHS.

Take care all,

Mrs Sibley

**Keyworker School Provision**

Please complete the short form below to let us know if your child needs access to our Key Worker School Provision.

Pupil Name…………………………………………………………… Class…………

Parent Name………………………………………………………………………………

Key worker role and brief explanation of this role:

…………………………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………………………….

………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Emergency Contact number 1……………………………………………………………

Emergency Contact number 2……………………………………………………………

Email Contact address:…………………………………………………………………..

Any Medical/Allergy Issues/Needs: ……………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………

………………………………………………………………………………………………

Any other important information we should know:

…………………………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………

Signed……………………………………………………………… Date………..…..