



The Consortium Multi Academy Trust

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Friday 20th March 2020

Closure of all schools due to coronavirus (COVID-19)

Arrangements for pupils of Key Workers & Home Learning

Dear Parents/Carers

In Andrew's letter yesterday, he informed you about the government's decision that all schools in England would close to pupils at the end of this week 20th March, he also outlined the plans for schools to remain open for children of Key Workers, some vulnerable pupils and pupils with EHCPs. The Trust is committed to provide this provision. All staff, at all of our sites have been working incredibly hard since we became aware of the Covid-19 pandemic, but especially so following the announcements this week to get everything in place for Monday 23rd March.

Over the coming weeks the country will rely more heavily on Key Workers (see list below). If parents/carers are in one of these groups, then we are offering childcare facilities between the hours of 8.30am and 4pm in one of our 7 Educational Centres. Children will be able to attend a school building from their hub as per the list below; we may also be required to offer places to pupils from other schools, as well as provide places to the parents of our own staff (also Key Workers).

Educational Centre Locations	Covering the following schools	Centre Leader
GLEBELAND	Barnby & North Cove and Glebeland	Debbie Thomas
MENDHAM	Mendham & St Edmund's	Susie Collins
RENDLESHAM	Rendlesham	Kevin Speirs
HENLEY	Henley & Helmingham	Steph Hawes
WINTERTON	Winterton	Caroline Richardson
SOUTHWOLD	Southwold	Bernie Cleland
YOXFORD	Yoxford & Peasenhall and Middleton	Gail Jerman

The Government released full guidance on maintaining educational provision last night and this includes guidance regarding Key Workers. The guidance also includes key principles for us all to follow:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.*
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable, or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*
- 3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.*
- 4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.*
- 5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.*

List of Key Workers:

- > Health and Social Care
- > Education and Childcare
- > Key Public Services
- > Local and National Government
- > Food and other necessary goods
- > Public Safety and National Security
- > Transport
- > Utilities, communication and financial services

For full details on these Key Workers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We will also be offering this facility to some of our vulnerable pupils and those on EHCPs, these pupils are easy for schools to identify and the parents of these pupils will receive a communication from their school offering their child sessions at one of the Centres. Identifying key workers is much more difficult as we do not have this information at school. We will therefore need to ask parents about their roles and whether or not they require their child(ren) to attend an Educational Centre so that they can work. This process may take a few days to organise so please bear with us while we put the arrangements in place. We may need to contact you further for additional information so please check your emails regularly.

If you are in a key worker group and you need to access this provision please complete the following Short Survey by Friday 20th March 5pm:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsL69zxaM7pU-2mCDfZWokXAAaQ7E2dinGyeXAqV4mcwXmNQ/viewform>

Home Learning

All schools in The Trust have been preparing over the last couple of weeks and many have sent some ideas for learning at home already. We have now been able to set-up secure, online classrooms for each school, further details about this will be sent to you in the coming days. We expect the virtual classrooms to be live for all pupils by Monday 30th March if you have not been sent sign-up details by Wednesday 1st April please contact your Academy Head via their email.

We will continue to communicate with you throughout the period of closure and provide updates when appropriate.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Tamsin Little
Director of Primary Education