



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Unfortunately we are writing to inform you that from **Friday March 20th** school will be closed for all pupils from 3.30pm

On Monday we will re-open as a place of **Emergency Childcare for children of 'Key workers'** and to support the most vulnerable. We also aim to provide meals for 'free school meals' entitled children hopefully a hot meal in school or by voucher You will have received information by letter re. Key Workers or txt. message re meals.

We need a clear response by 10am tomorrow morning so that we are able to plan for this.

Up until this point, we have done our best to keep your children safe, whilst continuing with routines of learning despite our diminishing staff team. At the current time, the most important thing we can do is to provide Learning Packs for you to use at home with your children so that their educational journey can continue. Some of what is provided is on the style of a worksheet, research and completion of exercise and pieces of writing. There is also a page of web-links that cover a range of things from times-table practise to computer coding as well as access to free e-books. Also, on our school website you will find details of further links to what the children are learning and ideas for activities you can do at home. Please support them with this work and encourage them to stay positive and show their best.

All staff will continue to work towards making the summer term as rich and exciting as it can be. The spread of COVID-19 brings unprecedented challenges and this brings a heightened level of anxiety for everyone. However, we must remember to stay calm and ensure as much normality for the children as possible.

On the reverse of this letter there are links for emergency support during this difficult time, please take a look at them. They may help you or someone you know.

We appreciate your support at this time and will continue to keep you informed of any new developments.

Yours sincerely,

Denis O'Regan
Head of School

Possible sources of help and assistance

- **Southwark Emergency Support scheme** this is help meet emergency basic needs
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/emergency-support>
Contact Number: 0207 525 2434
Hardship through Coronavirus impact re: zero hour contract; difficulty claiming benefits; citizenship related issues; free school meal eligibility etc

If you are finding it difficult with finances and ensuring a supply of food, there are a number of food banks operating in the borough that can support families:

- **Southwark Foodbank (PECAN)** - 020 773 20007 / <https://www.pecan.org.uk/southwark-foodbank>
Five centres operating in the borough with opening times and locations listed on its website.
- **Oasis Foodbank** - 0207 357 7331
Has one distribution centre in Southwark at St George The Martyr Church. Borough High St, London, SE1 1JA
- **Central Southwark Community Hub** - 020 7703 1653 / <https://www.cschub.co.uk/>
Four centres in the borough with locations and opening hours listed on its website. Clients need to be referred to Margaret Taribo (margaret.taribo@cschub.co.uk) before a visit is made.
- **Camberwell Community Fridge** – 020 7737 6186 / Albrighton Centre
Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- **The Borough Free Fridge** – 02073577331 / St George The Martyr Church, Borough High Street, SE1 1JA
Open Tuesday afternoon, 2-5pm.