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Headteacher: Mr J Parr BA Hons

19th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Re: School closure & seeking key worker information

Following on from many other recent communications, I'm now writing to you to confirm a few matters and to also ask you for some information. The Prime Minister's announcement last night, was the first we knew of these changes and we are responding as quickly and carefully as we can.

First – you will all know that we have now been instructed to close the school on Friday until further notice.

Second- we have also been advised by the government, that school should be 're-purposed' and open in a new restricted way for qualifying pupils only. Obviously - no pupil in self-isolation will be able to attend school in any circumstance because they may be infectious. The same 14 day isolation rules apply. Qualifying pupils are the children of key workers and children with certain needs who cannot appropriately accommodate their child at home / by alternative means.

At present we don't have a definitive list from the government and we have now run out of time waiting for it today. We will update our approach when we receive it. Therefore at the present time we are defining the qualifying group as:

- NHS staff, police and supermarket delivery drivers and other vital public services.
- Vulnerable children who have a social worker and those with Education, Health and Care Plans or other particular school defined vulnerability

Those qualifying pupils, who attend our re-purposed school, will not be attending lessons, rather they will be carrying out the same work that other pupils will be doing at home using Show My Homework. They will of course wear school uniform and usual school hours will operate (although breaks will be differently supervised).

At Church Stretton School this means we will only be receiving qualifying pupils on our premises who we have agreed meet the government criteria, and where the parents of these pupils do not have other preferred, suitable means of managing child-care. Some of our pupils of course are considerably older and do not require 'child-care' as such.

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Some additional information for qualifying parents

We have been advised on many health matters recently. For example we have been asked to 'socially distance' wherever we can (something that is not possible in a school). We have also been advised not to ask grandparents to supervise children because of older person risks. Please consider these matters carefully when responding to this letter.

If you believe that you are qualifying because of your occupation please click [here](#) to complete and submit the online form by 12 noon tomorrow. Please rest assured that the information will be kept secure in line with GDPR regulations.

If you believe you are qualifying because of other reasons, such as having an EHCP, we may have already been in contact with you discuss this. If we have not, please contact us via an email to admin@csschool.co.uk by 12 noon tomorrow, answering the following:

- Name and date of birth of pupil
- Your reason for qualifying
- Whether or not you wish to take up the child-care place at this time

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards. Students at home will have the work to do which will be provided through Go4Schools. This is the same work will be undertaken by pupils attending our re-purposed school.

Many thanks for your understanding and support. This has been a worrying and unprecedented situation for all of us and we appreciate your ongoing help.

Yours sincerely,

John Parr
Headteacher