



19 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As from Monday 23 March 2020, school will be providing instrumental support in a national crisis for our front line health and care colleagues and other essential key workers. At the time of writing this letter, the government have not issued guidance about who are key workers. Once we have this information, it would be very helpful to let us know if you are a key worker and if you will be needing your child to attend school to enable you to work. We will also be ensuring that our most vulnerable students have a safe space to come to and food to eat. We will teach the curriculum, but we will also be teaching them that we are an interdependent society, we have social responsibilities and we will be teaching them what this looks like in practice.

Our aim to provide this essential service for as long as it is needed. It may be that we reach a point when we cannot open, due to the health and safety risk posed by staff shortages. In this eventuality, we will inform parents and carers at the earliest opportunity. This is an unprecedented situation, which is changing on a daily basis. The Government have been very clear that they want schools to close for as short a time as possible in order to curb the spread of Covid-19. We do not know how long this will take. We will keep you updated, via our website, as soon as we have information to share.

For pupils who will no longer be able to attend school, you will receive a comprehensive pack of home learning. Teachers will set and monitor work through 'Purple Mash' on a daily basis. You will also receive additional learning activities to support your child at home. A letter will be sent home via school ping, explaining this in detail. Our website will also contain our home-learning information.

Parent's evenings have been postponed and we aim that these will take place when school reopens. If school closes for a prolonged period, we will make alternative arrangements to keep you informed of your child's progress. The Government have cancelled all statutory tests, so our pupils will not sit SATs at KS1 or KS2, the Year 1 phonics test or the Year 4 multiplication test this year.

We will be providing emergency support for families experiencing crisis and experiencing difficulties should contact via the email address, familysupport@holytrinitypri.dorset.sch.uk. Details of this is on our website. Please note that this email is for emergency contacts only, and should not be used for day-to-day enquiries.

The school office will be open as usual during this period of school closure, however we will have reduced staffing levels. As expected, we are experiencing a high volume of calls at present. Please help us by ensuring that contact is for essential, important matters during this time. This should not be used for day-to-day contact with teachers, **only in the event of an emergency**.

We will do our utmost to serve our local community, provide excellent childcare for frontline workers and look after the vulnerable, while our healthcare workers are busy looking after loved ones in hospitals. We will do everything we can to help.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Fiona Daykin
Headteacher