

REDBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



179 Long Lane, Norris Green, Liverpool, L9 6AD
Tel: 0151 330 5100 Fax: 0151 521 6595
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Website: www.redbridgehighschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Paul Cronin N.P.Q.H, M.Ed.



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will have seen the announcement by the Secretary of State that school will close after Friday the 20th.

The Government have announced that provision will be made for pupils whose parents are what they describe as key workers. They have been defined so far as; NHS staff, Police/emergency services, delivery drivers. education staff and social care staff. The Government also announced that provision should be made for vulnerable pupils that includes pupils with EHCPs and/or have an allocated social worker. This in effect means all pupils in our school.

We do not believe that the Government have considered the needs of our pupils with health needs when making this announcement as the guidance around vulnerable people with identified health needs remains in place. We would urge parents to consider that advise especially if pupils have any of the following health needs:

- chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as [asthma](#), [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\)](#), emphysema or [bronchitis](#)
- chronic heart disease, such as [heart failure](#)
- [chronic kidney disease](#)
- chronic liver disease, such as [hepatitis](#)
- chronic neurological conditions, such as [Parkinson's disease](#), [motor neurone disease](#), [multiple sclerosis \(MS\)](#), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
- [diabetes](#)
- problems with your spleen – for example, [sickle cell](#) disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as [HIV and AIDS](#), or medicines such as [steroid tablets](#) or [chemotherapy](#)
- being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)

If in any doubt consult your GP or medical practitioner. People in this category are being advised to socially distance themselves for up to 12 weeks.

Social distancing is;

Social distancing measures are steps you can take to reduce the social interaction between people. This will help reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

They are:

1. Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough
2. Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible
3. Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces such as pubs, cinemas, restaurants, theatres, bars, clubs
4. Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media
5. Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services

Everyone should be trying to follow these measures as much as is pragmatic.



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The advice in regards to presenting with symptoms remains the same.

You / your child must self-isolate for 14 days if presenting with a temperature and/or a new or continuous cough. Immediate family members in the same household must also self-isolate for the same period of time.

We need to make all parents aware that as of today we had 14 staff and 49 pupils absent. Regardless of the Government directives we may not be able to remain open if sufficient trained staff are not available to support the pupils and we will keep you informed on a daily basis as to what stage the school is at.

We will endeavour to keep the school open and running for as long as we can and will be liaising with the local Authority on what will happen going forward.

The Local Authority have also made arrangements that in the event of a school closure pupils who are in receipt of Free School Meals will receive vouchers to exchange at major supermarkets as a replacement for the midday meal. We will send out details if and when a decision is made to close.

We know these are very worrying times for us all in our school community. We will all need to support each other to make our way through this national health crisis. Be assured that the school and staff wish to do everything we can to support our pupils at this time.

Please do not hesitate to contact school with any queries.

Paul Cronin
(Headteacher)

