

Dear Parent/Guardian,

RE: Covid-19 update - Thursday 19th March

As the Covid-19 epidemic has worsened the DFE have notified us of the need to close the school and all provisions at Streethay from Monday 23rd March until further notice. We fully appreciate that this presents a number of challenges for us all, and we very much need to work together and be understanding of these difficult circumstances. Below are some of the key details relating to the closure and what will happen next.

Communication Throughout the Closure

We will continue to communicate updates and be reachable via info@streethay.shaw-education.org.uk, this is our preferred method of communication. However, in an emergency please call the usual school number 01543 396180 and leave us a message. We will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Updates will also be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Safeguarding and Welfare Checks

We are required to regularly check that all families are safe and well. Engagement with Teaching staff on Tapestry will be the main method of checking everyone is safe and well. If there is no engagement on Tapestry for a period of 3 days we will call to check in on the family. If we are unable to get in touch with you, this will become a safeguarding concern and may result in a referral to First Response. Should you have any safeguarding worries or welfare concerns please call the number above at any time.

Education

It is expected that all children complete work during the closure and engage with learning daily. An age appropriate pack and guidance will be sent home with your child on Friday 20th March. Following this, activities will be sent out via email. It will be vital that parents engage with these activities as much as possible. We would like to remind our families to comply with government recommendations, children should not be present in public places during the school day if this is advised.

Communication about learning

All parents/carers are encouraged to post observations, pictures and videos of learning daily on Tapestry. If you are unable to access Tapestry please email info@streethay.shaw-education.org.uk immediately. Teaching staff will be required to engage with these observations and make suggested next steps.

Weekly competition

A weekly competition will be sent out and this will involve; creating, making and role play. Entries and examples of work can be uploaded to Tapestry. The staff will select a winner and we will announce this on our website.

Key Worker Childcare

We wholeheartedly support the government's plan to ensure key workers are enabled to continue their work on the front line. We are awaiting further information regarding who is categorised as a key worker so in the short term please notify us if you think you fall into this category. More information to follow.

Free School Meals

If you are eligible for Free School Meals the government has made a commitment to provide support. We are working on a plan and will let relevant parents know how they can access support as soon as possible.

Payments Wraparound & Nursery

At this stage we can inform you that no further invoices will be issued until the school reopens. This means you will not be billed for service you do not receive after 31st March. In order to support us we would ask that you pay your March invoice as normal by 23rd. Obviously, we need to make sure that staff will continue to be paid and we will be awaiting further advice from the government and our trust. Please note any provision for key workers will still be chargeable following usual age-related protocol.

All staff have a number of directed tasks to complete during the closure as well as monitoring completed work, providing additional work and signposting for additional support during the closure, but please also be mindful that a number of them are in a similar situation to yourselves and will be trying to care for their own young families whilst continuing to work; this situation is far from ideal for any of us, but these are unprecedented circumstances. We understand there will be some frustration about the situation, but would ask that social media is not used to vent this frustration; this has not been directed by the school and we are responding as best we can to support the directives regarding the health of the country.



Mr Taylor - Head of School

Stuart Taylor **Head of School**

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