

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will have heard in the news that yesterday the government announced schools in England to close at the end of the day on Friday in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The announcement made clear that there were some children and young people who would continue to receive education and that schools would remain open for them.

This list included:

- Vulnerable Children – this includes those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Children of key workers (more information on this to come out later today from government)


Discovery Academy will remain open as usual to all who are able to attend. The current guidance remains for any child or family needing to self isolate for 14 days if they develop any of the symptoms of Coronavirus.

I want you to know that we do not have advance warning about government announcements and are discovering information at the same time as the general public. We are finding out answers as quickly as possible by working with the Local Authority to come up with solutions in these unprecedented times. Please be assured we will provide you with information as quickly and clearly as we can.

As you know, the situation regarding our schools is constantly changing both in response to government guidance and staff attendance due to self isolation. We are monitoring staff levels constantly to take care of the whole school community and to continue to do our best to ensure a stable environment for your children.

Thanks for your patience and understanding during this time - we appreciate that these announcements will have an impact on you and your family. Please stay in touch with us and use your other existing support networks to stay connected. We will keep you updated as soon as we know more information.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Pike
Principal

Useful Information

- Please use [NHS 111 online](https://www.nhs.uk) if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next.
- Guidance on what to do if you or a member of your household has symptoms of Coronavirus
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>
- Coronavirus: 8 ways to look after your mental health
<https://www.mhe-sme.org/covid-19/>