

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: General school closure update

Home Learning

I hope that this letter finds you all in good health. The school is rapidly adapting to teaching children while at home. In less than two weeks we have set up a virtual learning system to ensure that no Barnhill student goes without learning at this difficult time. While there will be teething troubles, please do ensure that your children persevere. Consult our Home Learning page for full details:

<https://www.barnhill.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning+%2D+Start+Here%21&pid=91>

Key worker's children

Key workers are vitally important in keeping the country running, especially during this time. You can see the list of key workers on the reverse of this letter. **The Government guidance is very clear:**

IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR CHILDREN TO STAY AT HOME, THEN THEY SHOULD.

However, if a child has a parent who is a key worker, then educational provision will be available for them at Barnhill.

If you are a key worker and need your child to come to school so that you can work, then please contact the school **as a matter of urgency** using this [link](#) to explain your circumstances. If the link does not work, then please email including your role and children's names.

enquiries@barnhill.school

Free school meals

The government have shared with schools their plan to introduce a voucher system, whereby the money for free school meals can be sent straight to families. We will share the details when it has been formalised, which is expected to be after Easter.

The children of parents who are not key workers will not be allowed into school during the general closure. However, these children will be allowed to collect their free school meal during the lunch break between 13:10 until 13:40 each day. Children should come to the Owen Road gate and enter the canteen through the back doors. Meal packets will be available to be taken away and eaten off site. All children – and any accompanying families – should take care to follow the social distancing guidance during this collection time.

May I wish you all the very best at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Jones
Head of Barnhill Community High School

The Government's definition of key workers:

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).

Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.