

20th March 2020

Dear Parents/ carers of pupils in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10,

As a result of the decision made by HM Government to close schools, I write here to outline important information which you need to read and respond to if appropriate.

School will be closed to almost all pupils from Monday 23rd March 2020.

Care for children who have an EHCP, are the most vulnerable or whose parents are key workers

All parents of children with EHCPs have been contacted and provision is in place. This also applies to the families and children who are our most vulnerable.

As advised by the Government, we will do all we can to stay open for children of key workers. An accurate definition can be found on our website home page.

Many parents who work in critical sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. Do not send your child to school unless you have to. The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread.

Please email Mr Ali (w.ali@decschool.co.uk) if you believe you are a key worker and need care for your child during the period of school closures, stating the following information:

1. Your full name and date of birth
2. Your role
3. The name and address of your employer
4. The reason you require care for your child for you to go to work
5. Whether your child receives Free School Meals
6. The full name and date of birth of each child needing care
7. An indication of a requirement for this provision for your children during the Easter break

Please note that when care is provided by school, pupils will be socially distanced and we will be unable to teach normal lessons. Pupils will be supervised to work on the home-learning materials available on our website.

This provision will run from 08:40 to 15:05 each weekday from Monday 23rd March.

Children in receipt of Free School Meal

From Monday we are providing two weeks' worth of supermarket vouchers for all children who receive free school meals. This will provide families with additional funds to buy food to provide healthy meals for children. The vouchers will equate to £3 per day, per child. Each voucher will provide a total of £30 of financial support.

Vouchers will be posted out to you first thing on Monday morning, and you should receive them by Tuesday.

If your child does not currently receive free school meals and you think you may be eligible, please email Miss Shahmiri (k.shahmiri@decschool.co.uk) with the following information:

1. Your full name and date of birth
2. Your full address, telephone number and email address (if you have one)
3. Your child's full name, year group and date of birth
4. Your National Insurance number
5. We will check on Birmingham City Council's system and let you know if you are eligible.

The Home Learning Package

Your child's home learning package for the next two weeks can be found via:

<https://www.decschool.co.uk/working-at-home>

This is being broken down into individual subjects and links to the curriculum content being taught at this point in the year.

If you have any questions please email the following addresses according to the subject:

Faculty	Contact	Email address
Mathematics, Psychology and H&S	Ms E Raine	mathssupport@decschool.co.uk
English and Drama	Mr T Hutton/ Mrs R Atton	englishsupport@decschool.co.uk
Science	Mr B Feenan	sciencesupport@decschool.co.uk
MFL	Ms V Lopez	mflsupport@decschool.co.uk
Humanities	Mrs N Delaney	humanitiessupport@decschool.co.uk
PE and Creative Arts	Mr J Smith	pecreativesupport@decschool.co.uk
Media, Computing, Business and Tech	Mr O Hanson	mediatechsupport@decschool.co.uk

We will do our utmost to respond to your query as quickly as possible.

We will review our home-learning programme regularly and publish updates on our website. This is likely to be every two weeks during term time. Please check the website daily for new information. You can stay up to date by following us on Twitter: @followdectc.

Thank you for your support at this difficult time.

If you have any general questions or concerns that cannot be answered by the contacts above, please do not hesitate to contact school using my email address (m.dunn@decschool.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Dunn
Head Teacher

