

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### **RE: School Closure**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware all schools including Nursery schools close today following the government announcement on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The closure is until further notice. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support especially during this difficult time. We will be in regular contact with you while we are closed. We aim to send you weekly things to do at home with your child and next week, we will provide you with a school mobile number so you can contact the school when the building is closed. We will continue to call you, especially if you are the only adult in the household, as you and your child's well-being continues to be our priority. We will also look at arrangements for you to collect your child's belongings. If you urgently need their medication do get in touch.

The government has asked schools to provide childcare for vulnerable children.

These are children who are;

- supported by social care,
- 'looked after' children,
- disabled children
- children with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#)

Schools have also been asked to consider providing childcare for Key Workers. These are people critical to the COVID-19 response.

Key Workers are people who are work in;

- Health and Social Care
- Education and childcare
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communications and financial services

As many of this guidance has just come out, we need time for planning and risk assessing how this can be delivered to best effect at Kintore Way. We currently have a high number of staff absence and a number of staff who need to self-isolate. It is highly likely that we will not be able to provide childcare next Monday, Tuesday Wednesday or Thursday. In the long term we are aiming to offer childcare for 3 days a week. Please let us know your preferred days when you get in touch.

If you are a Key Worker or your child meets the criteria for a vulnerable child and you would like to access childcare at the school, please email the school office at [office@kintoreway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@kintoreway.southwark.sch.uk)

Please leave the best phone number to contact you on, your child's name and details of your job (if applicable) and shift pattern, and preferred days for childcare and a member of the Senior Leadership will call you to discuss your needs. If you are a Key Worker, you will need to provide proof of employment.

**We strongly recommend that you keep your child at home.** These are challenging times and the COVID-19 virus is highly contagious and can result in very serious illness. The risks to staff, children, parents and visitors are high and being at home is the safest place to be. However, we recognise that you may have no alternative and require childcare at the school.

We are in unprecedented times and circumstances are changing daily. We recognise that the school's closure and COVID-19 may cause additional stress and anxiety for you and your child. Please find attached a 'Keeping Healthy' information sheet. We will share further information over the coming weeks that enables you to access support if required. In an emergency you can call the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Children's Centre on 07887499910 or 07484081877 or 07741631755 during office hours.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, we will be sending you a letter that can be presented at Food Banks. We may also be able to provide food vouchers if required, so please do get in touch if you need assistance.

Please take care, we will be in touch regularly over the coming weeks and months.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Sherwood  
Executive Headteacher

