19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus update – school closure**

Following on from my previous message, I’m now writing to confirm that the government has instructed all schools to close this Friday.

School will be open as normal today and tomorrow. Staff will be ensuring that these days are as enjoyable as possible to support children in this anxious time.

In the Prime Minister’s speech reference was made to schools supporting vulnerable children, as well as the children of key workers whilst schools are closed. However, we have yet to receive clarification of how this will happen in practice. I will of course update you as soon as I receive further guidance. At this stage school will close at the end of the school day on Friday 20th March and remain closed until further notice.

In the meantime if you consider yourself to be a key worker, I would ask you to inform the school by e mail at[admin@riseparkinf.org.uk](mailto:admin@riseparkinf.org.uk) providing evidence of your key worker status (e.g. a professional identity badge) and working pattern. Any children of families where one parent is working from home whilst the other is key working will be required to stay at home. Please could all notifications be sent to us by **10am on Friday 20th March** at the latest so that this can inform our future planning. All supporting evidence held on file will be deleted from the schools’ records once the school is fully re-opened.

We will then contact all families, whose children are eligible for admission, with further information on the schools’ provision as from Monday 23rd March. These pupils would be admitted for the duration of the usual school day, from 8.45am – 3.15pm.

**All other children will be required to stay at home, as from Monday 23rd March, until further notice.**

Please note that this is a national closure; the nursery and both schools will re-open as soon as possible, the dates for which will be communicated to you via Parentmail and the school websites.

**What we’ll continue doing while your child is at home**

* We have sent home learning packs for your children to begin working on. These include online learning links
* A reminder that these can also be collected, by any families who are not self-isolating, from the school office for the remainder of this week. If your child has medication in school, we would ask you to collect this at the same time
* We will send more information and ideas for learning to parents throughout the duration of the school closure
* School will still be contactable via email at [admin@riseparkinf.org.uk](mailto:office@riseparkinf.org.uk) As we are staying open for some children, our phone lines will be manned but this may not be as frequently as at present
* If your child usually receives free school meals (eligible for Pupil Premium Funding) we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

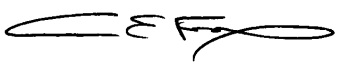
**What we won’t be able to go ahead with**

This will understandably mean that school trips and publicised events are all postponed for the time being. We will be in touch with regard to the funding of these events once we have more information from the relevant agencies.

We appreciate your continued co-operation as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and we’ll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to contact us to share any concerns or questions, please don’t hesitate to do so by emailing the school office.

Thank you again for your continued support.



Mrs C.Fox

Executive Headteacher

Rise Park Academy Trust