



Ashley Junior School

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I am now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by text and the school website.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home:

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

- Home Learning packs have been prepared by teachers and they will be sent on Friday 20th March
- Within the pack is a covering letter that has a number of email contact addresses:
 - The class teacher – should you have a query or your child is stuck
 - Mr. Cousins – should you have a technical difficulty with the Learning Platforms
 - Mrs. Cheesman – should you need to share anxieties or worries
 - Mr. Rix – if you want to discuss anything at all regarding the situation

If your child usually receives free school meals 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:

- All visits and visitors are postponed or cancelled
- PTA and whole school events
- SATs testing will not take place in May

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will

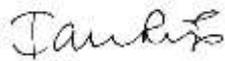
Normans Way • New Milton • Hampshire • BH25 5FN
www.ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk • adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk • 01425 616510
Headteacher: Mr Ian Rix
Chair of Governors: Miss E. Ward

have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops. This is a disease that will affect all of us in some way. Be assured, that our staff are, as always, determined to keep your child safe and do the very best for them. We need to stay positive, embrace the advice and support each other to ensure we get through this as safely as possible.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please do not hesitate to do so via email (i.rix@ajs.hants.sch.uk) or telephone 01425 616510.

Remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use **NHS 111 online**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Rix', written in a cursive style.

IAN RIX
Headteacher