

20th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We are writing to you further to the statement made by the Government on Wednesday evening regarding the closure of schools to all but the children of key workers and vulnerable children. Last night the Government confirmed who a 'keyworker' is but the local authority have also been given discretion to add additional keyworkers. Therefore, we are writing to you to gain the necessary information to implement this.

The government information for parents/carers regarding the closure of educational settings can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

As far as keyworkers are concerned, we would like to confirm that there is no obligation to send your child to school. The offer is in place for all parents/carers who are keyworkers, who need to use the service to allow them to fulfil their job in supporting the nation. Our expectation is that children in year 10 or above whose parents are key workers should be able to self-isolate at home without supervision. If you feel this is not the case then please add this to the comment box on the Survey Monkey which is referred to later in this letter.

We will need proof that you are a keyworker in order to accept your son/daughter.

The categories which are listed as a keyworkers are:

- Health and social care staff
- Education and childcare staff
- Transport workers
- Public safety and national security
- Emergency services
- Local and national workers needed for essential work
- Food and other necessary goods
- Utilities, communication and financial services

The full details of which job roles this covers can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Therefore, if your child is in year 7 - 9, it would help us if you could let us know if you think you may fall into one of these categories **and** that you would be looking to use this service.

As far as vulnerable students are concerned, this includes children with an EHCP, looked after children, children that have a social worker and children that are open to Early Help.

Although we hold this information, we do need confirmation that you would like to use this provision. Again, as with keyworkers, there is no obligation to use this service.

Please can we ask you to complete the relevant Survey Monkey for the school that your child attends, if you think you or are child are eligible for the above:

Carisbrooke College: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q8JBJP5>

Medina College: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q86BBC6>

The Island VI Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QLDMG6R>

The Local Authority will continue to make home to school transport available to those children that are eligible to receive it, however in some instances it will require some changes to be made which may take a little time.

Just for clarity, **all other children will need to stay at home**, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Further details regarding the school closure will be sent to you later today.

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 through our SchoolComms system and our website.

If you have any further queries, further information can be found at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus website, the Department for Education Helpline 0800 046 8687 or email dfc.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk.

Thank you again for your continued support during this challenging time.



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Karen Begley
Deputy Executive Headteacher
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Dave Mumford
Head of School – VI Form