

20th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We are entering an unprecedented time of enforced school closures. This is something that no Headteacher or senior leader would have thought that they would ever need to contemplate, especially on this scale and in these circumstances. The very fact that we are being asked, as a nation, to pull together and support our keyworkers to help fight this pandemic and keep the country safe could be seen as an overwhelming and daunting prospect. However, as leaders of our profession we have a duty to plan and carry this responsibility through.

Therefore, can I thank you, in advance, for what you have done so far in supporting your children and the school with a calm and sensible approach.

A letter was sent this morning asking for parents/carers of the children of keyworkers and the most vulnerable children to register their child via an online booking system; thank you to those who have already done this. A copy of the letter, with the links, is available on each of the school's websites.

Students who are coming in to school next week need to arrive for 8.45am in full uniform and will be cared for until 3.10pm. On each site on Monday, Caterlink will have food available at break and lunchtimes for students that are on site, whether they are eligible for free school meals or whether they purchase it. 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.

Any students who are not going to be at school next week but are eligible for free school meals, can request for a packed lunch to be available for them to collect from the school reception on Monday 23rd March from 12 noon. If you require this to be available please complete the relevant survey below:

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

Medina College: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MHSJ2YX>

The Island VI Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MPVY9HX>

Further communication will be made regarding the longer term planning of this.

A letter will be sent to all parents/carers early next week regarding pastoral support for students and further details of how work will be provided going forward.

It is important to acknowledge that these measures are being put in place to reduce contact between people and, therefore, the spread of the virus. So any parents that can have their children at home should be looking to do this, and children who are not in school do understand the reason for this.

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



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