

Bookings for Vulnerable Children and Children of Key Workers

Dear parents and carers

Information on booking places for vulnerable children and children of key workers.

A letter on remote learning and learning in school will follow.

Thank you for making sense of the last-minute lockdown and bearing with the communication issues we had last night – it was very frustrating for Parentmail to jam up just as we needed it most. The email came through eventually at twenty to one in the morning! I can only imagine it was due to schools nationwide all writing to parents at the same time. We tried to use ClassDojo to communicate while Parentmail was stuck – I hope you had the information you needed in time.

The school is now closed to all children other than those identified as vulnerable, or those who are the children of critical key workers. The guidance on key worker definition 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>

I would like to add that, while we at school are proud to be able to do our bit to educate and care for those children and to help keep the country running during lockdown, I am hopeful that in our school community everyone will also do their part in reducing the transmission of the virus and carefully consider how vital this facility is to their needs, even if they are eligible to make use of them.

If all of the children for whom places have been requested so far came in, there would be more than 150 children in school. Please only request places for your children if you are not able to organise work around childcare. If a parent or carer in the household is not working, we would hope and expect that they would not request a place, even if the other parent is a key worker on duty.

This provision during lockdown will run in year group bubbles - so children from both classes in each year group will be learning together.

The online form sent yesterday to register interest is now closed and names have been transferred to School Gateway, which will be used to book places for the rest of this week and each week from now. If you will need a place but have not yet registered your child through yesterday's form, please contact the school office.

Places will need to be booked each week for the following week, by the end of the day each Wednesday.

Please go to your app store and download the School Gateway app. You will need the email address and mobile number registered with the school to register your account. If you have any problems please speak to Julie in the school office.

The school day will run as before:

Reception: 9.00am to 3.00pm

Year 1 and 2 8.55am to 3.10pm

Year 3 and 4 8.50am to 3.15pm

Year 5 and 6 8.45am to 3.20pm

Local Food Links have cancelled orders for the rest of the lockdown period (see separate Local Food Links letter below). For the rest of this week, if you have ordered a meal from Local Food Links for your child, the school will work from the key worker and meal lists and re-order the meals for your child. From next week you will need to order meals through Parentmail. We will send you details later this week.

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from last night's announcement that schools will be closing with immediate effect, we would like to reassure you that, due to these unprecedented times, we will be crediting all meals ordered from Wednesday 6th January to Friday 12th February back onto your Local Food Links account. We do not need you to contact us, this will be done automatically in the next week. In regards to those children still attending school, we have asked schools to provide us with daily information in regards to how many lunches are required and will endeavour to stay open as long as possible providing we have the numbers.

Please share this information with other parents/carers to let as many people know as possible.

Thank you for your patience in these difficult times.

*Take care everyone.
Local Food Links*

Thank you for your patience today while we could not run extended schools. From tomorrow, **we are pleased to be able to run Breakfast club from 8:00am, and After School Club until 5:00pm (for vulnerable children and children of key workers only)** if you have booked already you do not need to do anything further. We will update you with any changes as they happen.

Finally, thank you for the many messages of encouragement and support we have received – we are all of us together trying to make the best of this situation but I am sure we will be able to do very well for our children by working together.

Best wishes

Ben Barker

Headteacher, Radipole Primary School