

Letter to Parents



Thursday 19th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are living in unprecedented times and sadly, business cannot continue as normal.

We are asked by our government to support our country in providing a setting for our key workers' children and vulnerable pupils throughout the coming period, including what would normally be holiday periods.

I am mindful of the pressure and emotional strain you are under and so want to provide as much certainty as possible about the plans for the coming weeks and months.

Next week, all schools will remain open for the vulnerable and the pupils of key workers. Your school will be asking you for information about the job you do and matching this to a list of key worker roles that the government is hoping to release later today.

The government is clear, that the only children who will be in school from next week, other than those deemed 'vulnerable', will be those in a home setting where **both** parents/carers (or single carer households) are key workers as their strategy is to keep more children away from school whilst enabling essential services to continue.

If your child is on the list, you will be contacted and offered a place. You are not obliged to take it up but the school needs to know what you are intending to do. For those in school, preschools and wrap round services, we will continue to provide this service for children on the list, although the location of the setting may have to change. (see Hub model below)

For all other pupils, work packs and work on line is being provided by your school. We have yet to hear about many things, such as how GCSE and A level grades will be awarded; when the schools will return etc. but will continue to publish updates on your school websites.

If your family is entitled to free school meals, there will be provision put in place – I'm afraid we are still awaiting details of this but will update you as soon as we can.

For Pupils on the List:

Cury and Coverack do not have sufficient staff available to operate next week and Garras School needs to close for essential work on its septic tank to be finished. The pupils who usually attend these schools, if they are on the key worker list, will transfer with their staff, to Mullion Primary School for the time being. Parents please bring your child to their school as normal and transport will be provided for them to get to and from Mullion Primary School.

Thereafter, from Monday 30th March, we will be setting up hubs across the Trust rather than opening individual schools. The number of hubs will be dependent on the number of pupils we need to cater for. Until we have a definitive list, it will be difficult to know how many hubs we will operate. We will of course provide transport from the home school to and from the hub or you can transport your child yourself if you wish.

The reasons for moving to a hub approach are to keep continuity for pupils and staff; as people become unwell with the virus the picture could change daily and alongside this a lot of organisational details: transport; food; staff cover, and we will not have the leadership to manage this on a single school basis as the virus hits. Therefore, it is sensible to set up the hubs. We are not alone in taking the decision to work in hubs. More details of which hub your child will attend will be shared later next week.

In the hubs, we will undertake similar activities to those we are providing on line for others and mix this with some recreational activities too.

There are a lot of other matters that are being worked on behind the scenes such as free school meals provision, transport etc. and procedures will be put in place to cover all of these.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your understanding, patience and support as we do our best to manage this very challenging situation

Kind regards,

Donna Bryant