

27 March 2020

Dear Parent/carer

As you will be aware schools closed their doors to all but a small number of students on Friday 20 March following a Government directive to do so as part of the fight against the Coronavirus.

What we have been doing since is offering safe childcare for the children of key workers and any students deemed vulnerable, who are unable to find alternative childcare arrangements.

The Government have been clear that sending children into school should be a last resort and that the safest place is not in settings where people will gather in groups.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for heeding this advice. Numbers in school have been very small.

From Monday 30 March, Kingsmeadow School, Dunston Primary School and Beehive OSC will be working together to further minimise the numbers of people that need to travel. Any child needing to be in emergency childcare to allow a parent who is a key worker to carry out their role or who is classed as vulnerable, will be catered for at Dunston Hill Primary School and or Beehive OSC. This will minimise the number of staff required but still allow care to be provided.

Any Kingsmeadow students will still be expected to arrive by 8:45am and the end of the day remains 2:45pm. They will not be housed with the younger students, but given their own supervised working space and given access to the same resources that students from home are currently working through.

For the period 6-17 April, all students will be looked after at Beehive OSC, which is located in the Kingsmeadow Sixth Form building at the entrance to the school site off Market Lane, otherwise emergency childcare will continue until further notice based at Dunston Hill Primary, supported by both Dunston Hill and Kingsmeadow school staff.

All Free School Meal arrangements will remain unchanged for the time being. We are still awaiting details from the Government about any voucher schemes. In the meantime, if you are eligible for a free school meal, please use the online form on the Kingsmeadow school website to order a meal for you to pick up.

I would like to wish you well and I hope you and your family stay safe and well in these difficult times.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Volpe
Headteacher

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