# MILE CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

**S. J. ALLEN BRASIER ROAD**

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19th March 2020

Coronavirus update and school plan

Dear Parents/carers,

Following on from my last update, I’m writing to let you know thatwe have now been instructed to close the school **after this Friday 20th March 2020** until further notice.

As requested by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. Although, currently, we do not know who is classed as ‘key workers’ or the exact definition of a ‘vulnerable child’.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into one of these categories.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March 2020 onwards.

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’ll re-open fully as soon as we can. I will let you know when this is as soon as we know.

**What we’ll continue doing while your child is at home**

Your child’s learning is of course important to us, so we’ll continue to help your child to learn.

We are sending home resource packs and useful websites on Friday.

We expect children to read every day, extra reading books will come home.

You will be able to contact the school and their teacher via email

(Email addresses included in resource packs)

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it’s far from ideal, but we’ll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19).

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Mr. Allen

**Answers to some questions you will have.**

**How long will Mile Cross Primary be closed?**

We don't yet know.

All we do know is that it is necessary to close schools now to reduce social contact throughout society.

England's Education Secretary Gavin Williamson says schools will be closed "until further notice".

## **Will Mile Cross Primary be completely closed?**

No.

Mile Cross Primary will be kept open to provide support for the children of key workers, such as NHS staff, Police, supermarket workers, social workers, carers in care homes, teachers and school staff, food delivery drivers/breakdown drivers.

We will also be looking at putting in measures to help those most in need - for example, children who receive free school meals.

We have been making plans to continue teaching and supporting pupils during the closure, using resources sent home and through online media and technologies such as Tapestry, Class Dojo, Microsoft Teams and Office 365.

## **What does this mean for parents?**

For many working parents, the closures will present issues surrounding childcare.

Some may need to take time off work.

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