

Heathfield Academy  
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Headteacher: Rachael Atkinson

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Closure of School Site to Pupils

Further to my letter earlier in the week I am writing to inform you that, in line with the government's announcement, Heathfield Academy will close to pupils on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March until further notice. The academy will continue to operate as normally as possible today and tomorrow for those who can attend based on the latest advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

The only exceptions to this from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March onwards are for the children of key workers (a definition is expected to be published by the government later today but examples given in yesterday's announcement were NHS workers, police, education workers and delivery drivers) **and** any pupil whose parents are specifically contacted by us. For those pupils at Heathfield who fall into this category, school provision is offered at our sister academy, **Applegarth Academy** (contact details below) from Monday; it will open from 9am – 3pm each day, until further notice. This is the most practical way we can keep a continuous provision operating for as long as is needed, and both Heathfield and Applegarth staff will run the provision for those who attend.

Therefore, if you believe your occupation comes under the 'key worker' category and you wish your son or daughter to be in School at Applegarth Academy from 9am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, please complete the form via ParentMail if you are wishing to use this service and fall into the key worker category by lunchtime on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March stating your child's name, year group/class teacher together with your occupation so that we can make necessary arrangements.

As you are aware, to support you in continuing learning for your child we are putting together some home learning packs for your children to take away with them tomorrow, there will also be ongoing links provided on the Heathfield and Applegarth websites under Home learning for you to access should you wish. Whilst your children are at home, please don't worry about specific teaching strategies or types of activity you get your children to do. You should choose activities you feel are appropriate and enjoyable. Should you want any further advice, please call the Applegarth academy office with your name and number and one of our members of staff will get back to you.

At a time when many people are anxious, our Heathfield children have shown great resilience, calm and maturity. They have continued with positivity and carried on as usual. We are incredibly proud of them! We would also like to thank our teaching and support staff at Heathfield, who despite the extensive arrangements that have been put into place across the country, have come into school every day to support the children and community with their usual passion and dedication.

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We will keep you updated and will write to you again on soon with any further updates and changes we need to inform you about.

*Yours sincerely*

Rachael Atkinson

John Halliwell



Headteacher

Executive Headteacher

Applegarth Academy

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