



Date: 19th March 2020

Re: Coronavirus

Dear Parents and Carers,

An announcement was made by the Prime Minister yesterday that from **Monday 23rd March**, all schools will be closed due to the Coronavirus outbreak. We have all been extremely concerned and making adjustments to our lives.

You should also be aware however that there were some exceptions made to the closure of schools for students and this applies to the children of key workers and children classified as 'vulnerable'. All children who attend Queensmill School are classed as 'vulnerable' and so after the Easter Break, children will be able to return to school as normal on **Tuesday 21st April**.

Due to the virus, a significant number of Queensmill staff have been absent and have had to self-isolate. We have managed to make adjustments but every day more people are absent and it has been extremely difficult. For this reason, for the next two weeks, beginning on Monday 23rd March, there will be a very reduced school offer which we are calling a 'Shadow School'. We are having to make very difficult decisions as to who the *especially* vulnerable will be, so that they can attend school in the last two weeks of this term. We will apply the following criteria:

1. Children who have an allocated social worker
2. Children who are classed as a 'Looked After Child'
3. The children of a keyworker eg: Emergency Services Staff; Lorry Drivers, NHS and Health Care Professionals

We appreciate this will be very disruptive and unsettling but we are forced to reduce the school offer to ensure we can safely manage the children who do come to school. We will **make contact** with the children who meet this criteria and confirming they can continue to come to school. If we **have not** made contact with you, I am afraid your child should not come to school from Monday 23rd March until after the Easter holiday.

We will be communicating with the transport service to inform them of the changes for the next two weeks.

As I stated at the beginning of this letter, it is our expectation that school will resume as normal after the Easter Break and I hope you will be able to bare with us during this extraordinary time and respect the difficult decisions we have had to make.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Freddie Adu, Headteacher, Queensmill School

