



20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

It is with great sadness that we close our gates to the vast majority of our children this afternoon for the foreseeable future. This is an incredibly worrying time for everyone, we very much appreciate the support we have received from parents in making sure that our children and families are safe. There is no doubt that this will be an extremely testing time for everybody, it is a time when we need to really care for everybody in our community, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

Our children will be missing a significant chunk of their education, our dedicated teaching team have made sure home learning packs have been sent and online activities will be set regularly to support your child's learning. If you have any concerns or questions during this time you will still be able to contact school through the usual channels or through contact@holyfam.bham.sch.uk. I am also attaching a list of useful websites that can support parents and families through this difficult time.

We remind parents that teachers will be phoning up to speak to the children at least once a week, we feel that this is vitally important to keep children in touch with school and allow teachers to monitor home learning. Finally, I ask you to continue to pray for all those affected in so many different ways by this dreadful virus and pray that we see an end to it in the near future.

God bless and stay safe,

Mr P Foley
Head Teacher





Useful Websites

- Place2Be – Guide to helping parents answer questions from their children and to support family wellbeing: <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/news-and-blogs/2020/march/coronavirus-information-for-children/>
- Young Minds - Talking to your child about Coronavirus and 10 tips from their Parents Helpline to support family wellbeing: <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/>
- Carers UK - Guidance for carers: <https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/health/looking-after-your-health/coronavirus-covid-19>
- Covibook – an interactive resource designed to support and reassure children aged 7 and under, designed to help children explain and draw the emotions that they might be experiencing during the pandemic: <https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>
- Amaze - information pack for parents <https://amazesussex.org.uk/faqs-about-the-coronavirus-for-parent-carers-of-children-with-send-brighton-hove/>
- [Public Health England](#) have produced an easy read version of their [Advice on the coronavirus for places of education](#). You can download it [here](#).
- National Autistic Society – guidance and helpline for parents', young people and staff: [https://www.autism.org.uk/services/nas-schools/vanguard/news/2020/march/coronavirus-\(covid-19\)-advice.aspx](https://www.autism.org.uk/services/nas-schools/vanguard/news/2020/march/coronavirus-(covid-19)-advice.aspx)
- Mencap - Easy Read guide to Coronavirus: <https://www.mencap.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-03/Information%20about%20Coronavirus%20ER%20SS2.pdf>

