



I start by thanking everyone – children, parents, families and staff for the fantastic support and community spirit so far shown when dealing with the pandemic.

We are certainly in unprecedented times and as much as we try to answer one query, we instantly raise others.

Our understanding from yesterday's Government announcement is that in general School will be closed after hometime this Friday. However, Schools and the school workforce will be providing a school service for the children of "Keyworker" families and vulnerable children (those with EHCP or Social Care involvement).

At this point it is unclear who these persons are – but will include school staff (as these are the persons needing to be in school), NHS staff, police, supermarket delivery drivers.

The Government have said on this morning's news that they will provide local authorities (LA) and schools with further details this afternoon. Similarly, the LA have told Headteachers that further information will follow.

I am hoping that we will have some clarity about how children entitled to free school meals will get their meal or voucher for the meal and how schooling for keyworker's children and the vulnerable will be organised.

I give apologies for not being physically at the school gate at the moment, but I have had to isolate at home due to family members having a cough and temperature.

I am in constant contact with the LA and school. We will issue an update as soon as we have a clear picture of what we need to do.

At present, we shall continue today and tomorrow as we have so far this week.

Please continue to follow all guidance.

Ensure anyone having a new persistent cough or temperature self isolates and that everyone in the household self isolates.

Protect older family members and those with underlying health conditions.

We will publish information on our website www.rainhamvillage.havering.sch.uk and mobile app. Download our mobile app from Google Play Store or Apple App Store. Ensure you enable push notifications to receive all updates and newsletters. Type in our school name or postcode (RM13 9AA) and then select Rainham Village Primary School.

As you can appreciate everyone is under a great deal of pressure and stress at present.

Our focus is on supporting your children and families.

I ask that you please only contact the school office by phone if it is absolutely necessary so that staff can concentrate on preparing for the future arrangements.

I thank you for your continued support. Be safe and keep well.

S.E. Carter
Headteacher