



Helvellyn Road, Sunderland, SR2 9JJ. Tel: 0191 553 7665

Date: 23rd March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

It is important to remember that the school is closed. We have been asked to provide emergency childcare to allow key workers to go to work and continue their work in fighting this awful virus. The Secretary of State has clarified his initial comments and now says that ***“if a child can safely stay at home, they should be at home”***.

Sending your child in otherwise, places them, our staff and everyone else at increased risk. The purpose of closing the school is to reduce the spread of the virus. In order to do this the numbers of pupils and staff coming into school have to be as low as possible. We are now asking that key workers only send their children into school when their work/shift pattern prevents them from looking after their children at home.

Please ask yourself *‘is there another parent / carer who is NOT a key worker and able to take responsibility for them?’*

If the answer is yes - then please **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL.**

Vulnerable children (children in care – LAC, those who have a Social Worker, an EHCP or a disability) live in a safe and caring environment and ideally should remain at home **UNLESS BOTH CARERS ARE KEY WORKERS AND THERE ARE NO OTHER VIABLE ALTERNATIVES. To send them into school when there is a viable alternative is placing them, other pupils and our staff at risk.**

Please consider the above guidance and email office@hvj.org.uk or office@hvi.org.uk today with your revised childcare needs to enable us to keep childcare for those who truly need it. We expect you to update us weekly, on a Friday, to enable us to plan staffing.

This is an unprecedented situation we find ourselves in and I would like to thank all of you, and our amazing staff team who have pulled together for the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and their colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs T Bevan
Headteacher
Hill View Junior Academy

Mrs C Smith
Headteacher
Hill View Infant Academy





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