



Infinity Academies Trust

Ready to learn; Prepared to flourish.

**Infinity Academies Trust**  
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**Chief Executive Officer: Mr G Booth**



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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus update – school closures to most pupils**

I am writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close all of our schools to almost all children after this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, until further notice, to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus**. We recognise that these are hugely worrying and troubling times for all of us and we want you to know that we will continue to do all we can across the Infinity Academies Trust to support you and your children.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the **children of key workers** and **children with certain needs**. Our staff have been fantastic during this crisis and have gone above and beyond to ensure our staffing levels are as good as they can be. However, we do have to recognise that school closures have an impact on the families of our staff and increasingly more of them and their families are needing to self-isolate so we will keep our provision under continual review. We will keep offering a service at our schools for those children and families identified by the Government for as long as we possibly can. This will have to look and feel very different in the coming weeks and information about our offer will be sent directly to the children and families who meet the Governments definitions. We will contact vulnerable families by telephone so you know our childcare provision is open to you.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information about what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think you fall into one of these *potential* key worker categories by completing the slip at the end of this letter and returning it to your child's school tomorrow. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure of the final definitions.

Possible Key Workers: National Health Service, Armed Forces, Teachers and Childcare staff, Care Home Workers, Social Workers, Police Officers (including Community Support & Police Civilian staff), Prison Office or Probation staff, Firefighters, Food Delivery Drivers.

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March onwards.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we are permitted and this will depend on the effectiveness of the national measures to reduce the outbreak. We will let you know when this is through our school social media accounts and websites.

**What we'll continue doing while your child is at home**

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn. However, we would say please do not feel obliged to complete these activities and definitely do not do them to the detriment of your family life or well-being of your household. Learning can be done in so many ways and, most importantly, children will want their parents to be parents, not teachers, in this time of anxiety and uncertainty.

To support this our staff have:

- Added a whole range of work and activities to our school website
- Included a “contact me” form on their class page if children require support

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it is far from ideal, but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please do not hesitate to do so by contacting your school's main office.

Remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use NHS 111 online.

I want to thank all of you for your support at this difficult time. The Infinity Academies Trust values all its pupils, parents and communities and we hope that you stay safe and well during the challenging times ahead. I would also like to publicly thank all our staff who are performing a key service to support our communities and the country. They are all incredibly dedicated professionals and we are grateful for all that they have done and continue to do.

Best Wishes



CEO- Infinity Academies Trust

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### **Key Worker Information- Reply Slip**

Please complete and return to your child's school office as soon as possible. This will enable us to contact you about our childcare provision from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March onwards.

Pupil name/s..... Year Group(s).....

Please write below which possible Key Worker group you belong to as defined by the list above. We may ask for some evidence of your employment in these categories.

Parent 1: .....

Parent 2: .....

Please indicate whether you would need to use our childcare facilities: circle **YES** or **NO**

We will be in touch as quickly as possible with further details around our opening times and childcare provision.