



The Woodlands Federation

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Thursday 19th March 2020.

Dear Parents,

As you probably already know, the Secretary of State for Education gave a public statement that all state-funded schools in England would be closed from the end of the school day on Friday.

Having indicated that all schools would be *closed*, he then indicated that they would be expected to remain *open* for the children of key workers and for those in various vulnerable categories – providing a safe place and access to meals. We are expecting a definition of 'key worker' today from the Cabinet Office. It will take time to determine the nature of this provision.

We have started to make arrangements for the Woodlands Federation to ensure that the children of key workers will be able to continue to attend school. With careful thought and consideration as well as taking advice from the Staffordshire CC, the decision has been made that we will be open at St Peter's First School during this time due to facilities (including onsite catering facilities) and we hope to be able to provide as much before and after school care as possible as well as cooked school meals.

The Secretary of State gave no undertaking that schools would be expected to sustain a pattern of normal learning during the closure; rather that any available staff would be expected to support other frontline efforts.

Myself and the teaching staff will be working together to clarify as best we can what this announcement means for the school, for our pupils and for you. If you are a key worker parent, and will require your child to attend school during this time please make the St Peter's office aware of this as soon as possible so that we can ensure we can arrange appropriate cover.

Office contact: 01283 820252 and office@st-peters-marchington.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you for your support and for your patience in the meantime.

Our thoughts and well wishes are with you all during this difficult time.

Kind regards,

Helen Wright.

Executive Head Teacher.