



# WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

## Special Needs Academy

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Headteacher

Mrs Lisa Hall



17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **School Update**

I hope you are all keeping well and adjusting to the current situation. You will be aware that, following the government's announcement yesterday, the lockdown will now be in place for at least another 3 weeks. Although this is having a huge impact on all of our everyday lives we will hopefully begin to see a positive impact of this action before too long.

Although the Summer term officially starts next week on 20<sup>th</sup> April we will continue to remain open only for our most vulnerable children and for those whose parents are key workers. The school will continue to operate on a skeleton staff with the minimum amount of staff on site at any one time while all other staff are working from home. This is to enable us to adhere to the Government's policy of social distancing and to enable as many of us as possible to remain at home and to keep ourselves safe. As I have stated in previous letters to you, due to the reduced number of pupils and staff, we are mixing classes, classrooms and staff and are not following our usual timetable of normal lessons.

From next Monday we will start sending out daily learning activities again to be completed at home. Please do also take the time to look at our school website as there are a wealth of activities and resources available to help you during this period. The website is being updated several times a week so it is worth checking it regularly.

### **Shielding Letters**

I understand that the government have continued to issue shielding letters for people who are considered particularly vulnerable. If you have received one of these letters for either your child or someone in your immediate household with whom you live please advise the school office as soon as possible.

Please see the Government website for advice on those high risk categories:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

### **Free School Meals (FSM)**

The government is now issuing vouchers with a code direct to parents for children who are eligible for free school meals at the value of £15 per week per child. Due to the high volume of schools attempting to log in to the official website to order the vouchers there has been a delay in issuing them. However, eligible parents should receive the first batch of these vouchers by email next week. They will be sent as a code via email from either the Department of Education (DfE) or Edenred so please do check your emails regularly, including junk or spam.

I will be in touch again once the government announces its future plans regarding the lockdown and the impact on schools. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything or have any queries. As always we are here to help and will be happy to give you any assistance we can, even if it is just a listening ear or a friendly voice at the end of the phone.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Hall', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Lisa Hall**  
**Head Teacher**