



Love, learn and grow together

### Our On-site School

From next Monday, 23rd March, we will be operating an 8am to 6pm **on-site school** for children of key workers, and children with an EHCP or social worker. This is in line with new government expectations.



A variety of teachers and Sport4Kids coaches will be in school to provide lessons and activities throughout the day. If a child becomes unwell they will need to stay at home and rejoin when they are able to do so.

If staffing levels become low, parents may be asked to move temporarily to a different school. Also, children from other schools may be asked to join us.

Parents who are Key Workers may wish to opt for their children to join the Virtual School.

We will keep in touch with friends in the Virtual School by newsletter and through teachers on class pages on the website.

We have structured the school day to support the work patterns of key workers. Please inform staff of your intended pick-up time, when you drop off at the front door.

Arrival can be between 8am and 9am.

Collection is at 3.30pm or from the after-school club before 6pm. There is no charge for this.

Children should bring their own snacks, a water bottle and a packed lunch. Free school meal children will have one provided.

Uniform is optional - just wear something comfortable and bring a PE kit and trainers.

Many thanks to all key workers who are working round the clock at this challenging time. You are really appreciated and valued by all. We will say prayers for you in our On-Site and Virtual School every day, and we look forward to the time when we can all learn together again.

### Free School Meals

If you are registered with the council as being entitled to free school meals, vouchers will be made available to cover the cost of a midday meal. Until the government has sorted the vouchers, packed lunches can be collected from the school office at 12 noon each day.

### Our Virtual School

From Monday 23rd March we will be operating a **virtual school** for children who are not attending our on-site school. This is in line with new government expectations.



Every morning children will be able to visit our school website and click on their year group page. The class teacher will put weekly work on the class page, to be completed at home.

Some work will include links to special educational sites for improving knowledge and skills. Children will have been provided with books, work packs and passwords for 'Times Tables Rockstars' (Year 2 - 6) and 'Discovery Education Espresso.' (Year R-6). These are on-line learning platforms paid for by school. Anyone without internet access should let us know immediately.

Newsletters will appear on the website each Friday as usual to keep in touch with teachers and friends. Packs of work will be available to be collected from school and reading books exchanged. Announcements will be made when that is possible.

**Children:** *While you are at home, please email school to let us know how you are getting on. Send photos of the projects you are working on, poems, stories, artwork and diary entries. We will publish some each week on our newsletter.*

*If you become unwell in any way at home, you are not expected to complete school work.*

*Everyone at school will be thinking of you and your families and will say prayers for you every day. We look forward to the time when we can all learn together again.*



### Staff Self-isolation

We have a number of staff and governors working from home in self-isolation and wish them and their families all the best as they support the school in any way they can. Work is delivered to them electronically or physically to complete. Their efforts will really support front-line staff in the coming months.

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# Coronavirus and claiming benefits

## • If you are in work and not claiming benefits

**If you cannot work** due to coronavirus and are eligible for [Statutory Sick Pay](#) you will get it from day one, rather than from the fourth day of your illness. This will be retrospectively from 13 March 2020.

Statutory Sick Pay will be payable if you are staying at home on Government advice, not just if you are infected by coronavirus. This will apply from 13 March 2020.

**If you are a gig worker** and/or on a zero hours contract, you may be entitled to sick pay. [Check your eligibility for Statutory Sick Pay](#).

**If you need to provide evidence** to your employer that you need to stay at home due to coronavirus, you will soon be able to get it from NHS 111 Online instead of having to get a Fit Note from your doctor. This is currently under development and will be available soon.

**If you are not eligible to receive sick pay** you can [apply for Universal Credit](#) and/or apply for [New Style Employment and Support Allowance](#)

**If you are prevented from working** because of a risk to public health, you can also apply for these.

## • If you are already claiming benefits

**All face-to-face assessments** for health and disability-related benefits are temporarily suspended.

If you already have an assessment appointment arranged, you do not need to attend. Your assessment provider will contact you to discuss your appointment and explain the next steps to you.

**If you have made a claim** for Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Universal Credit or Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) but do not have a date for an assessment appointment, you do not need to do anything. You will be contacted shortly by telephone or letter to let you know what will happen next.

**If you are already receiving** PIP, ESA, Universal Credit or IIDB you will continue to receive your current payments as normal.

**If you have made or wish to make a new claim**, DWP will continue to take claims for all benefits.

**Read** the [current NHS guidelines](#) on coronavirus, including advice on those who should stay at home.

**If you have a jobcentre appointment** but are staying at home on Government advice or have been diagnosed with coronavirus, you will not be sanctioned if you tell DWP in good time. If you have a [Claimant Commitment](#), it will be reviewed to make sure it is still reasonable.

**If you are staying at home** as a result of coronavirus, your mandatory work search and work availability requirements will be removed to account for a period of sickness.

**If you're already claiming Universal Credit** and think you may have been affected by coronavirus, please contact your work coach as soon as possible. You can do this by using your [online journal](#), or calling the Universal Credit [helpline](#).

**If you are in work and already claiming Universal Credit**, and are staying at home on Government advice, you should report this in the usual way via your online journal. If this means you are working fewer hours, the amount of Universal Credit you receive will adjust as your earnings change.

**If you are self-employed and claiming Universal Credit**, and are required to stay at home or are ill as a result of coronavirus, the [Minimum Income Floor](#) (an assumed level of income) will not be applied for a period of time whilst you are affected.

Jobcentre Plus staff are ready to support you if you are required to stay at home.

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- **If you are making a new claim**

**Don't delay making a benefit claim**, even if you think you may be affected by coronavirus.

**You can [apply for Universal Credit](#) online.** If you need to make an appointment, call the number you are given when you submit your claim, and explain the situation. Jobcentre Plus staff are ready to support you if you are required to stay at home.

**If you need to claim Universal Credit** or [Employment and Support Allowance](#) (ESA) because of coronavirus, you will not be required to produce a Fit Note.

**If you are affected by coronavirus** you will be able to apply for Universal Credit and can receive up to a month's advance upfront without physically attending a jobcentre.

**If you are suffering from coronavirus** or are required to stay at home and want to apply for ESA, the usual 7 waiting days for new claimants will not apply. ESA will be payable from day one.

**For more information** about any aspect of Universal Credit, including how to make a claim, visit the [homepage](#).

**If you have been working within the last 2 to 3 years** and have paid and/or been credited with enough National Insurance contributions, you may be able to claim [New Style Jobseeker's Allowance](#) (JSA)

**New Style JSA can be claimed** on its own or at the same time as Universal Credit. Your savings and capital (or your partner's savings, capital and income) are not taken into account when claiming New Style JSA.

- **If you're an employer**

**If you employ people**, you are urged to use your discretion about what evidence, if any, you ask for when making decisions about sick pay.

**If you have fewer than 250 employees**, you will be able to reclaim Statutory Sick Pay for employees unable to work because of coronavirus. This refund will be for up to 2 weeks per employee.

Find out about other [Government support for businesses](#) affected by coronavirus.