

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Temporary Closure of Elutec**

As you will be aware, the Government has announced that all schools in England will close temporarily for the vast majority of children from end of the day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

This decision has been taken on the advice of medical and scientific experts in order to manage the spread of COVID-19 and relieve pressure on the health system.

From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, the vast majority of pupils' education will continue from home.

The school will, however, remain open for two specific groups of pupils:

1. Those whose parents are defined as key workers (employed in the NHS, elements of the food supply chain, emergency services, armed forces personnel, social workers and those working in the care sector and certain local government workers); please note that this list will be updated following government advice.
2. Those who are particularly vulnerable including those with EHC Plans.

Barking and Dagenham Council is working with all schools and Public Health England to make sure we are providing the right provision in line with government expectations of schools. This includes, making sure that all children who entitled to Free School Meals are provided for.

I would ask that parents who believe they fall into the category of key workers contact the school as soon as possible and no later than 12 noon on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March via so that we can arrange for your child to continue to attend school.

We will be identifying those students who are in the second category and will be contacting their parents and carers separately. If you believe your child falls into this latter category and you have not heard from us by 9am on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March please contact us on the above telephone number.

Over the next few days we will be in a position to update you further and provide additional information on ways we will be able to support your child during this time. In particular, we will be finalising how we can ensure that students on Free School Meals will receive entitlement to food. We will be doing everything we can to deliver whatever is required of us by Government.

We are entering times of further uncertainty, speculation and concern and our responsibility as a school, like yours as a parent, is to give our children the learning, support and reassurance that they will need in the coming weeks.

We will continue to update parents on a regular basis with important information as we receive it. Please do regularly check on the school's website.

Thank you for your continued support and for working with us in the weeks ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms Donovan-Maddix', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Ms Donovan-Maddix**

Principal

Elutec