



## TO ALL PARENTS

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## SCHOOL CLOSURE

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children from today until further notice. This is to reduce the spread of the virus as much as possible by reducing the numbers of children and staff in schools to a minimum.

The government released the key worker list (see below) at around 2am this morning. We are trying to respond to this and await further guidance from the Local Authority.

**The key message remains; we need as many children as possible to remain at home. This is for everyone's safety and will help fight the coronavirus by reducing the risk of spread.**

It may not be possible to meet all requests due to staffing numbers and the need to keep all in the buildings as socially distanced as possible. Additionally, any childcare offered could be ceased if/when a case of coronavirus is revealed or staffing levels cannot sustain it any longer. We understand that this may be disappointing to some parents, but this policy has been introduced to ensure social distancing, and we must ensure as a school that we adhere to this and protect the health, safety and welfare of our staff and families. **The Government guidance is that children should stay at home, hence the reason for this policy. If one parent who is a key worker has a partner who is not working or can work at home, we would expect you to keep your children at home.**

Places will be limited for children so that we can keep only a skeletal staff on site. Additionally, any childcare offered could be ceased if staffing levels cannot sustain our offer anymore.

We will contact you later when we have further details. Once we have been able to create a list of children attending on Monday we will provide further correspondence.

Today and the start of next week will be very challenging for us to put together some form of provision and therefore I ask for your patience and understanding. This is an incredibly difficult time and all staff are working so hard to provide reassurance and the best support we can give.

Yours sincerely,  
Tony Lacey  
Chief Executive Officer  
Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust