

STANLEY PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

Stanley Park Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3JL

A Foundation School in the London Borough of Sutton

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20th March 2020



A "Sense of Pride"

Dear Parents,

Overnight, the Government have issued a list of the people they consider to be within the critical sectors, in order to respond to COVID-19. Please see below for the direct links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

I cannot stress enough that the critical message in this guidance is:

- **To ensure that if children can stay safe at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**
- **Wherever possible, children should be kept safe at home and only those children who absolutely need to attend school should do so.**
- **The fewer the amount of children making the journey to school, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect more vulnerable individuals in wider society.**

Schools are being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children **where children can not be safely cared for at home** If we have more applications than we have capacity for, it will be necessary for us to prioritise the offer of places.

Eligibility to apply for care for your child at school:

- Vulnerable Pupils (families supported by social care, 'looked after' children, children with an EHCP etc.).
- Children where a parent is identified as working for a critical sector and has to be in work.

This is an offer to parents and carers and there is no requirement for anyone to send their child to school if they do not need or wish to do so.

If you do fit the description above, we would ask you to only consider the school's childcare provision if you have no appropriate alternative.

So that we can plan quickly and effectively to meet this childcare need, and to make sure we have sufficient staff, we now need a bit more information from you. Apologies if you have already emailed or spoken with us, but we need to ask that you return the appropriate attached form. Please email it (as an attachment) to: office@spjs.org by 4pm today Friday 20th March; those which arrive after,

Headteacher: Amanda J Lamy BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Julia Burridge BA (Hons)

may not be processed in time to be able to provide a service on Monday 23rd March but will be considered for future days.

Once we have received all the forms back, we will prioritise our families with most need. We will then notify parents of a formal offer of a place to attend SPJS during this time of wider closure. **Whether you are a key worker or not, only families with an offer of a place, should attend. Do not come to the school before a place has been offered and confirmed.**

Please note that as the situations evolves, it may be necessary to re-prioritise our offer during the weeks ahead due to changes in staffing levels and demand.

As you can imagine it is a very busy time in schools, therefore please do not phone or come to the school office regarding this matter whilst we are trying to plan for this reduced provision, other than to hand a form in.

More information for parents and carers on closure of educational settings can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?utm_source=3af9bd53-8b24-49d0-92be-34d607ef773a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Please be reassured that we are currently looking into what we can do to support families whose children are not in school but are entitled to Free School Meals. We will be in contact with you as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your support during these challenging times.



Mrs Lamy
Headteacher