



Pennine View
An Academy within Nexus Mat

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01.04.2020

Dear families,

Post Easter Arrangements

Thank you all for your continued support of school at this time. It has been anything but business as usual over the past few weeks, and with the Government response to the COVID-19 pandemic escalating over the past fortnight it has been a very anxious time for all of us. With the Easter break upon us, it is important to keep you informed about our plans for the school offer after the holiday period.

The Government guidance remains that **all** children should be kept at home, unless this is not a safe option for them. Schools are now designated as emergency care settings for those children of key workers who have no safe alternative for their child, and also for those children who are classified as “vulnerable” where they are not safe to be kept at home. Across the country, this has placed a lot of pressure on families – however, we have a clear instruction from the Government that self-isolation and social distancing are the necessary approaches for everyone unless in exceptional circumstances, and we are required to reinforce that message as much as possible.

What we also realise is – by the time the Easter holiday has ended – many families will have been in a state of self-isolation or social distancing for a long period of time, and some of our pupils may be at a crisis point. Unless Government guidance changes, all families must adhere to the above. However, we also want to make sure that we can meet need where families can no longer provide a safe care offer at home.

As such, the **school site will continue to be closed on Monday 20 April 2020**. Any families requiring emergency care for their child after Easter are asked to contact the school **by midday on Monday 20 April** using this email address: pennineview.admin@nexusmat.org, so that we can review staffing levels and ensure a safe offer can be made from Tuesday 21 April. At this time, we are managing very high levels of staff absence and we therefore may not be able to guarantee an offer for all families. We may need to undertake a risk assessment for children, in partnership with social care, if we have more demand for provision than we can manage. This will then inform how we prioritise places.

Our aspiration is to provide the level of emergency childcare we are required to, so please be assured that we are doing all we can to meet families’ needs and this will continue to be the case moving forward. Our staff continue to work remotely to keep in touch with children and families and we will continue to do all we can to help support you at this time.

Should Government guidelines change over the next few weeks we will issue further guidance to families. However, the current forecasts are that things will get worse before they get better, so if anything we are expecting more measures to be implemented in time, rather than relaxed.

Thank you all for your continued support – please stay safe and have the best Easter break you possibly can.

Yours sincerely,

S. Mulhall

Sarah Mulhall - Headteacher