

The Pinner Park Pool

Special
Edition



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School Closure News

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that we have been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday, until further notice.

Schools have been asked by government to make arrangements to enable the children of key workers and children with certain needs to continue to attend school. We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means – please see article below if you think your child may fall into one of these categories.



All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is through our usual communication channels. As it stands, we have no indication when school may be able to re-open.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. Please read the article below which gives further details of our support for home learning.

As it stands at the moment, we know that we will be cancelling all school visits, clubs and events up until the Summer half term, initially. During the period of school closure we will not be offering breakfast or after school clubs to any pupils. We have been advised that all forms of statutory assessment (including national curriculum assessments – SATs – will not take place this year).

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can. Please do contact us if you have any questions using the office email address.

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Home Learning



We have added a new section to our school website which will be continually developed to support home learning and well-being.

There is a link from our [home page](#) – click on the scrolling text at the top.

We have put a range of online learning resources on the home learning page which can be used by children in any year group. We have also added links to some pre-prepared home learning from other providers. We hope that you find these useful – feel free to use them as much as you need to.

The teaching staff have also been preparing some weekly Learning Projects. These follow whole school themes but are tailored to the learning in each year group. These will be placed onto the website each week.

About our Learning Projects

We have asked our teachers to write a set of home learning projects which can be completed by your child during the school closure. In doing so, we have drawn on the work of other schools, companies and organisations (and, in the spirit of collaboration, we have shared our work with others). We are particularly grateful to the work of the Robin Hood Multi Academy Trust, whose format we have based our own ideas on.

In creating our Learning Projects we fully acknowledge that they cannot replace the quality of learning your child receives at school. However, our complete focus has been on creating a set of projects that all children can access to maximise their learning whilst at home.

What are the aims of the Learning Projects?

- To create age specific learning opportunities for our children.
- To create a resource for parents that is easy to access and use - the focus is on parents being able to help deliver the content or children accessing it independently.
- Key learning linked to the National Curriculum.
- To enable children to continue with their learning at home during school closure.
- To enable families to focus on a joint topic and theme to promote family wide learning.
- To provide structure and focus to each day that the closure continues.
- To centralise online learning resources and links into an easy to manage format for families.

How do I use the Learning Projects?

You will find the Learning Projects on the school website. There is a special link on our home page, directly to our home learning area. You can select the year group your child is in.

Each week, we will provide a new Learning Project for each year group. We currently have seven weeks' worth of projects!

You then download the project and begin following it. We'll notify you through SchoolPing and our social media channels when a new project is available.

The aim is for you to complete a minimum of two hours of learning a day with your child but this is very much your parental choice and you may wish for your child to do more. You can mix these projects with the other activities linked on our school website, and also continue to use our usual online resources such as Times Tables Rockstars.

What happens if my child finds the learning too difficult?

Our first piece of advice to parents is that ALL children find elements of learning challenging at times so try not to worry if your child becomes stuck and you cannot explain it to them. If this happens then make a note of what they found hard and move onto another learning activity - the school will cover any misconceptions when we return.

The Learning Projects which have been designed are based on the National Curriculum expectations for the year group which your child is in. It may be that your child finds the tasks set within the Learning Project for their year group too challenging, for example if they have additional learning needs. If this is the case, then we advise that your child accesses the Learning Projects which are set to the age range below, for example a child in Year 3 could attempt the Year 2 Learning Project if this is more appropriate for them.

Each Learning Project will follow a theme (across all year groups). This means that if you have children in different year groups, some of the activities or themes will overlap.

1. My Family
2. Area You Live In
3. Viewpoints
4. Animals
5. Environment
6. Food
7. Celebrations

Resources for Home Use

We'll be sending everyone home with some exercise books and reading books for your use at home. We hope you find these useful. Please remember that we will need you to return the library books and reading scheme books in due course.

School Events and Visits Update

All school activities will be closed from the end of the day on Friday. This includes all trips, visits, music lessons, events, clubs, and before-school and after-school care.

The cancellations will continue into the next half term and review it following that.

We will speak to Year 6 parents about the planned residential visit (PGL) as soon as we have any further news.



Support for Key Workers



Schools have been asked by government to make arrangements to enable the children of key workers and children with certain needs to continue to attend school.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means. We have started to contact some of our families. As soon as we have more guidance, especially relating to the children of key workers, we will contact you and ask you to complete a short form if this applies to you. We will send this out by SchoolPing, as soon as we have the information we need. Thanks for your patience! It is likely we will make contact later today through SchoolPing.

Medication

Our welfare teams hold a large quantity of medication on behalf of students and families, including asthma inhalers.

Given that we are expecting a sustained period of school closure, we recommend that parents collect any medication currently held in school and take it home.

This will enable you to have the medication where it is most needed.

At the end of the school day on Friday. We will have all the medication named and ready to collect from the studio (next to the school office) or from an outside collection point if dry. The collections will be available from 2.30pm. Please collect the medication from us – we cannot send it home with your child.



Well Being, Mental Health and Getting Support



At this time of uncertainty and anxiety for adults and children, and with the change in routines, it is really important that we look after ourselves and each other.

If you find yourself struggling, please do seek support. We are very happy for you to contact the school for that support. You can email the school office, confidentially, at any time and we will respond in any way that we can to support you. We have some very experienced staff and links to others who will be able to help. You are not alone.

If any family is facing acute financial difficulty please do get in touch with us. We want to help and we may be able to access grant funding, or put you in touch with someone who can support you.

We have a section on our 'home learning' page dedicated to well-being which includes some tips for families and also some activities you can do at home to support everyone's mental health.

School Meals – Menu Changes and Cancellations

We will be making some changes to the menu for tomorrow's lunch, simply so that we can use up the available food and avoid waste. We will ensure that any child with allergies does get the appropriate meal.

If you have pre-ordered meals for next week or the weeks thereafter and your child is not in school please log into ParentPay and cancel your meal booking. If you cancel your booking in advance, you will not be charged. We are unable to cancel the bookings without going into each individual account and this will take time away from other key tasks. Thank you.



Free School Meals during School Closure



Some of our children qualify for a free school meal because their parent receives qualifying benefits. During the period of school closure, we do not want any of those families to miss the opportunity to receive the meal they are entitled to.

We are currently working towards a plan to support those families during the coming weeks. We will contact all those families who are entitled to a free school meal. If you have not heard from us by Monday, and you believe your child is entitled to a benefits-related free school meal, please let us know on Monday morning.

Keeping in Contact.

Please ensure that you are receiving SchoolPing communications from us. If you are not, please let us know so that we can help to sort this out for you.

It is vitally important that we are able to contact you throughout the school closure period with updates and information.

We will also try and keep our website up to date, and send key messages through our social media channels.



**Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times.
School will close at the usual time tomorrow.**

#BeKind