



27th March 2020

School Closure – Easter Break Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of the support and responses to 'learning at home' activities that we have been receiving this week. The Coronavirus continues to bring a difficult period for everyone and sharing successes and fun experiences has to be a good way of beginning to manage this more comfortably!

As we head into the Easter break, unusual as it feels, our school team will be using the time to be with their families and hopefully recharge their batteries ready to provide support in whichever way the Summer Term 2020 demands. With this in mind there will not be daily postings on website class pages – we'd invite you and your families to use this time together free of the sense that you need to providing 'the school experience' in some way.

The first day of the Summer Term is Tuesday 14th April, although the school building remains closed until further notice. At this time we will pick up the 'learning at home' provision and will of course be in contact with you all again to update you on arrangements moving forward, as we receive the guidance from the Government and Local Authority.

Whilst there are many 'unknowns' we have tried to detail below the way in which we anticipate moving forward after the Easter break, within the current circumstances. We hope that this information allows you to be a little more comfortable in the knowledge that you have the full picture as it stands at the moment, of course as this changes we will be in touch again.

Contacting us

Following the Easter break the telephone at the school site will not necessarily be attended to at all times each day. Please leave messages for us if the phone is not picked up, be assured that these messages will be checked, accessed and actioned regularly. Alternatively feel free to contact us through School Gateway or email – admin@haytorview.devon.sch.uk. We will be seeking to respond to any enquiries, sharing of experiences or learning swiftly.

Learning at Home

Keep uploading your pictures, thoughts and learning via our special web page. There will be no daily postings from teachers during the Easter break, but there will be plenty available on your class pages from this week if you find you want it – you could even check out suggestions from other classes. Teachers will begin posting again on Tuesday 14th April.

Free School Meals

Those who qualify will be aware that we have been providing and delivering packed lunches this week where these have been requested. As things stand we plan to continue this service after the Easter break and **will begin again using the list of orders that we have been delivering this week**. We understand that the government is developing a scheme to enable families that qualify for free school meals to receive vouchers for buying food. As soon as this is released we will consider whether this provides a better alternative than what

we are able to provide – we will then be in touch with you. **Should you qualify for free school meals because of your circumstances and would like lunches delivered after Easter please get in touch with us.**

Childcare Provision for Children of Critical Workers

We are very grateful to everyone for following government advice and keeping children at home where there is the means to do so. This has meant that we have been able to successfully provide support in school for those who qualify and have needed it this week, as well as consider the needs and lives of our staff team.

In considering this provision in the Summer Term **we will get in touch with families who have expressed a need for this during the few days before the start of term.** This will help us to put any plans in place for the early part of the Summer Term, in line with the up to date Government guidance. Current Government advice (23-4-20) is that: people should only be undertaking essential travel; Parents should only be using Childcare where there are no other alternatives; parents are to be approached to remind them of this and asked to seek alternatives wherever possible.

If you require childcare provision over the Easter holidays, you can visit www.devon.gov.uk where there are details of how you can access provision.

Government Message:

Coronavirus Stay at Home Protect the NHS Save Lives

Following the [Prime Minister's announcement](#) on Monday evening, we should all be staying at home and only going out for the following reasons:

- To buy food or medicine
- To attend health appointments
- To take exercise
- or for essential work that cannot be done at home.

If you must go out, make sure you stay two metres (6ft) away from other people and wash your hands as soon as you get home.

Once again thank-you for your patience and support this term, have a good Easter and, above all, keep safe.

Yours sincerely

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Head of Learning and Development

Niema Bohrayba
Chair of Governing Board