



**Headteachers: Mr J Rielly**

24th March 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Firstly, I hope you and your family are well. These continue to be very challenging times for everyone, but I am very grateful for the support and understanding that parents have offered the school in recent days. Furthermore, it is lovely to see how children are engaging with the Home Learning that my colleagues are providing. Please do continue to provide feedback via the online platforms that the children have been asked to use.

Following the very clear 'stay at home' message given by the Prime Minister last night, I have reduced staffing levels in school to meet current demand and placed my colleagues on weekly shift patterns. Admin teams will now be working from home and the phone lines will be manned by the senior leader in charge, who may be away from the front office from time-to-time. Hopefully, email response times to enquiries made to [office@downlandsschool.org](mailto:office@downlandsschool.org) will not be affected.

I know that many of you have opted not to use the Post Closure Provision at this time. Nevertheless, I am also aware that the situation may change as keyworkers may need to be deployed to support the national effort against COVID-19. Therefore, please could you give at least 24 hours advance notice if military direction changes, requiring you to send children to the PCP at Downlands.

I have assured the Garrison Commander that we are making plans to provide provision for critical key workers and vulnerable children during the Easter Holidays. There is still much to organise for this and undoubtedly more updates from the government, so I think it is best if I contact you again nearer the time about this matter.

Most importantly, please do update us if your circumstances change and you need our advice or support. We are all here for you and your family.

Yours sincerely

James Rielly  
Headteacher