



Dear Parents/carers

04/01/2020

As you may have heard, today the government has announced that all schools must close due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the rise in cases locally and nationally. As a consequence Ocean Academy will close with effect from today until further notice, possibly until after February half term. We will keep our website updated with any information about the date of reopening.

During the period of closure, teachers will be setting appropriate work for all pupils. This can be accessed through home learning in Google Classroom or via paper versions of relevant learning if requested. Pupils can contact their teacher via Google Classroom for advice about their work during normal school hours. Pupils have been issued with these log on details and further information will be sent out on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Please do speak to the school office as soon as possible if you are having difficulties logging on to Google Classroom. If your child is year 3 and still does not have a Google Classroom log on, please contact the school office. Any new starters in other year groups have had log on details requested already and these will be forwarded to you as soon as possible. Please feel free to contact the school office if you would like paper versions of learning until the log on is secure. Also, please let the office know if you would prefer paper versions of learning throughout lockdown rather than Google based work.

**Our expectations of students are that they should complete all of the work set by their teachers and should aim to work from home during normal school hours. A great deal of learning was lost for those pupils who did not work at home throughout the previous lockdown and the gaps are very apparent now they have returned to school. Please do try and support your children to access the learning provided.**

Even during a period of school closure, our primary concern is the safety of our pupils. We have identified Ms Simpson as a trained member of staff who has been designated to maintain regular contact with families where there are specific pupil needs. Please do contact school if you would like to speak to an adult at any point of there are any difficulties at home throughout this time.

[All communication can be forwarded to office@ocean-aspirations.org](mailto:office@ocean-aspirations.org) or by ringing 01202606888.

We would urge you to follow the latest government advice regarding the virus and keep up to date to follow changes to this advice. As we receive further information on the closure, we will be post updates on the school website.

If your child meets the criteria outlined and does come into school tomorrow, they do NOT need to wear school uniform, but should wear a tracksuit and trainers so that outdoor learning can happen.

In England, all exams in May and June have been cancelled, including GCSEs and A-levels as well as England's primary school national curriculum tests, known as SATs. As soon as we are informed by the government we will write to parents to explain how student grades will be awarded this year.

There will be no after school clubs or wrap around care until further notice.

If your child does come into school tomorrow and you have already ordered a hot meal, this will still be available. More information on food provision following this will be sent to you with updates tomorrow.

It is also vital that you tell us if you believe you are a key worker and need your child to come into school for some or all of the week throughout lockdown so that we can arrange a space for your child.

Please email your response to the school office following the criteria below alongside a photocopy of documentation that proves you are a key worker and need this space.

**A key worker space should only be requested if there is no other alternative or no other family member who can look after your child.**

**Key workers are classed as :**

**Health and social care**

This includes : doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

**Education and childcare**

This includes: childcare, support and teaching staff, social workers, specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach.

**Key public services**

This includes: those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.

**Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of: the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition, essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies.

**Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food: production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

**Public safety and national security**

This includes: police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff , those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

**Transport and border**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

**Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes: staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers, waste disposal sectors.

Please let us know:

Child's name	
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Year group and class	
Key worker's name and relationship to the child	
Are you able to work from home?	
Key worker documentation provided	
Do you need your child to be in school to support your role as a key worker?	
Has your child been identified as being vulnerable? How?	
Does your child have a social worker?	
Does your child have a final draft EHCP?	
Days you would like your child to be in school each week as there is no other alternative provision available to you	
Time your child will be collected each day and by whom	

We wish you well during this very difficult time and look forward to seeing you all again as soon as we are able to reopen our school. Stay safe and look after each other.

Best wishes

*J. Quarrie*

Mrs J Quarrie  
Principal

