

The Consortium Multi Academy Trust

Chair of Trust Board: Dawn Carman-Jones

Principal & CEO: Andrew Alders-Dunthorne

Email: principal@consortiumacademy.org

Head Office Telephone Number: 01986 835670

Head Office Email: businesssupport@consortiumacademy.org

New working practices

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

22nd March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you managed to have a reasonably normal weekend, Monday is going to be a challenge for us all as we get used to new routines and ways of working. School and central team staff have been working hard over the past week and the weekend to get everything in place. Please bear with us in the next few days while systems get implemented.

The most important thing to remember is that the education centres below are only available to vulnerable learners (you will have been contacted) and children of key workers that cannot provide childcare at home.

The Trust is committed to and can provide a centre place for every child that has been registered. If you did not manage to register before the 5pm cut off on Friday please report to the centre on Monday morning to check eligibility and register. We want to be as supportive and flexible as we can during these difficult times.

Key worker children do not need to attend the centre every day, if you only require childcare for work purposes three days a week, please help us by only attending those three days. If things change we can increase or decrease days as and when you require it for work purposes. There is also no need to attend a full day, a child can be dropped off or collected throughout the day – please check with centre leaders for precise arrangements. **We cannot accept any child that is unwell and parents/carers will not be permitted into the school building.**

May I remind you of the centres as below:

Educational Centre Locations	Covering the following schools	Centre Leader
GLEBELAND	Barnby & North Cove and Glebeland	Debbie Thomas
MENDHAM	Mendham & St Edmund's	Susie Collins
RENDLESHAM	Rendlesham	Kevin Speirs
HENLEY	Henley & Helmingham	Steph Hawes
WINTERTON	Winterton	Caroline Richardson
SOUTHWOLD	Southwold	Bernie Cleland
YOXFORD	Yoxford & Peasenhall and Middleton	Gail Jerman

Free school meal vouchers – we are still working with the DfE and a contractor to get food vouchers issued to eligible families. We will get these to you as soon as possible and they will be backdated to the 23rd March.

Safeguarding and well-being – we retain powers and duties to ensure that all our pupils are safe and happy, this is particularly important during these troubling and confusing times for children. We will be conducting daily welfare checks via telephone. In some cases we may need to conduct home visits (in line with PHE and DfE guidelines). We look forward to you supporting us in our statutory duties.

Our priority to date has been to ensure that we can provide childcare provision to vulnerable pupils and children of key workers. We will now focus of delivering the best quality education we can remotely to ALL our pupils, again colleagues in the education team have been working with school leaders and families will receive further information in the next few days. If you have questions about education issues – please contact your centre leader. We will continue to develop and improve our offer as we go forward. For our home learners I would strongly recommend

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that you try to get a routine in place as quickly as possible, all our pupils are expected to engage in the learning activities we send you and teachers will be available online to support.


We will be producing a weekly Horizons Home Time newsletter, that will highlight learning at our education centres and home learning and I would encourage you all to engage with this.

There is more information for parents and carers here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Our whole Trust, schools, central team and families have shown huge resilience over the past week. I repeat my thanks to you all for your understanding, appreciation and support. Take care.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne
CEO & Principal

Cc: Trust Board and Members
Locality Committee members
All staff