



# Alameda Middle School

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to start by thanking you for your support over the last few weeks over what has been a difficult period.

Following from my previous updates this week, I need to make sure you are aware of a further, more major change. You will no doubt be aware that **schools, including Alameda, will be closed to almost all children from this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open from 23<sup>rd</sup> March for the **children of key workers** and for **children with a social worker or an EHCP**. We will contact all parents/carers of children in these groups. While we are still waiting for a definitive list of occupations described as “key workers”, we will be sending out a survey via Edulink to ask you if you require your child to come to school to enable you to continue working in one of those roles as there is no one else in the household who can care for your child. Until we get further information, we will include NHS staff, police, supermarket delivery drivers, early years workers, teachers, social workers and those caring for vulnerable and elderly people in our definition of key workers. We will be in touch again as soon as we are sure exactly who this applies to. If you do not have access to Edulink and your child is in this category, please contact school via telephone or email the school office at [office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk](mailto:office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk) by 10am tomorrow. Children attending school from Monday will not need to wear uniform but should still bring in their PE kit. Other normal school rules and procedures, such as those around mobile phones will still apply. The timetable offered will be different from that normally in place but will still be linked to our school curriculum as indicated on the website.

**All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that, unless your child is in one of these three groups you do not send your child from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March onwards.**

If we are unable or become unable to provide this facility, the local authority will work with the Department for Education's regional teams to ensure that an alternative option is available.

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 will reopen to all children as soon as we

can and will let you know by updating the website as well as by contacting you via email and text.

### **What can continue while your child is at home?**

As you will be aware from my previous letters, we have been providing work for pupils who are self-isolating. We are currently setting up a work area in the curriculum tab on our website. [Alameda Middle School - Curriculum](#)

There will be resources for all year groups which you can download or access directly. The work links closely to our planned curriculum. In maths, for example, the links are from "White Rose" which is the scheme that Alameda and some of our feeder lower schools follow. There will also be other useful links to follow. Answers for self checking are also provided where appropriate. You will also find our whole school curriculum for reference, which shows what we teach in each year group.

Our teachers will continue to update the materials and links throughout the closure period. If you require paper resources, these will be available to collect from the front office. To help us to copy the correct quantity, we will be sending out the opportunity to request this via Edulink. If you don't have access to Edulink and know you need the printed resources, please contact us via telephone or email [office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk](mailto:office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk). If you return the work into school, your child's subject teacher will look through it.

We also advise **daily reading**, daily us of **Timestable Rockstars**, **diary writing** and **regular physical activity**. **Playing games** is also a good activity for this time. Thank you for your support in keeping our children's learning going.

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this. As well as work, we will update this area with considerations of **wellbeing** and are looking into ways to provide some suitable links.

### **What we won't be able to go ahead with**

This does mean that for the foreseeable future we will be unable to go ahead with any trips or visits, and we will be unable to provide breakfast and will confirm whether we can provide after school club. Planned events such as "Alameda's Got Talent" and the presentation assemblies are currently cancelled.

### **Lockers**

As pupils may be away for some time, we will be asking them to empty their lockers as they usually do at the end of term. Please can you send carrier bags in if necessary.

### **Safeguarding**

If you have any concerns linked to Safeguarding, please follow the advice on our website. You can contact our Designated Safeguarding Leads at school, Mrs Fox or Mrs Richardson. Alternatively, you can contact the Access and Referral Hub at Central

Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8585. They will give you advice or may investigate your concerns.

Out of hours: 0300 300 8123

Email: [cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

### **Thank you again**

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

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please do not hesitate to do so via our [office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk](mailto:office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk) email. You can also contact me directly via email.

Thank you again for your continued support, we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Wishing you all the very best of health over the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you all safe and well very soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "M Warner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'M' being particularly large and stylized.

Maxine Warner  
Headteacher