

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Update 20/03/2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will all now know, schools will all be closing at the end of today for the majority of our pupils. At this moment we are unsure when we will be reopening so please ensure that you regularly check your school's website and Google classroom. All parents are urged to give in their details to the office to receive texts. Rather than phoning, could you please email at [info@ranelagh.tlt.academy](mailto:info@ranelagh.tlt.academy).

I would like to pay tribute to the amazing staff in our schools that have worked tirelessly during this uncertain time, and who will be continuing to work to support the nation until the current crisis is under control.

The government announced last night its key workers list and schools will be open for these children. Separate letters will be going out today to these parents regarding our ongoing arrangements for childcare. A copy of the government's key worker list is available on all websites.

As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus and this is why the government has given clear guidance on self-isolation, household isolation and social distancing.

***The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. Your child is at higher risk in school than they are isolated at home.***

**That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, unless absolutely necessary.**

We are therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. If your child falls into the vulnerable groups outlined by the NHS or have underlying health issues, we would recommend you do not send them into school.

As explained yesterday, we have created a dedicated non-medical hotline which will be manned daily, Monday to Friday, from 10am-3pm. School staff will be on hand to signpost parents to external services and offer help where possible. Please note that the number for this new hotline is **07944 224 266**.

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, not the universal free lunch scheme offered by Newham Council, we will contact you next week with more information, once the local authority has confirmed these arrangements.

If you have not already offered to join our Trust Volunteer Group, you can do so by sending your details to our email address [info@tlt.academy](mailto:info@tlt.academy). All volunteers will be contacted over the coming weeks with more details.

Lastly, it is unclear when we will return to school. Please look after yourselves, your families and our communities.

Best wishes,

Paul Harris CEO The Tapscott Learning Trust  
Shella Lawrenson, Head Teacher, Ranelagh Primary



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