

## We Are Still Open...

19th March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Following last night's announcements by the Government and Public Health England, schools, colleges and nurseries in England are to join those in the rest of the UK in closing on Friday. This measure has been taken and will be in effect "until further notice" to try to curb the spread of coronavirus. However this comes with certain exceptions- the children of key workers such as emergency workers, NHS staff and delivery workers, who may still need to be looked after. The same would happen for pupils with education healthcare plans and for those children identified as vulnerable.

We are committed to ensuring the best possible provision for our children therefore Brambles Primary Academy **will remain open for all who wish to attend** as long as it is practically possible to do so. We understand that this is a difficult time and that the situation is evolving on a daily basis. Therefore, we will ensure that any updates are shared with you via our website or other social media platforms in a timely manner.

### Academy Opening Times

The academy from 9 a.m until 3 p.m daily. There will be no breakfast or after school clubs. However, snacks will be provided throughout the day. Nursery will remain closed during this time.

PLEASE NOTE WE AIM TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR FAMILIES BY PROVIDING THIS PROVISION **DURING EASTER HOLIDAYS.**

### Free School Meal Provision

All children who qualify for free school meals will be given the option of a hot meal or a packed lunch. Those families who are self isolating but still entitled to a meal may arrange collection of a packed lunch from the Large Hall (windows). Staff will be present between 11.30 and 1.00 to assist with distribution.

### Gift Vouchers

These are exceptional circumstances and families may find themselves in financial difficulty due to the current climate. Many parents may experience hardship during this time. So for this reason we have secured a large amount of food gift vouchers for those in need which may be exchanged in our local supermarkets.

Please do not hesitate to contact the academy should you need to. Your enquiry will be dealt with in the strictest confidence and we are here to help.

Please contact us on **01642 210704**

### Self Isolation

Public Health England have advised that should anyone have flu like symptoms and a harsh cough the whole household should self isolate for fourteen days.

At the end of this period, could you please inform the academy when your child will be returning. This will enable us to organise meals and staffing for them.

### Pastoral and Office teams

Members of the Pastoral Team including Mrs Stogdale and Mrs Gill will be available each day from 11 a.m until 1 p.m by telephone.

Please contact us on **07834155083**

The office will be staffed from 9 a.m until 3 p.m and will be contactable by telephone during this time.

Please contact us on **01642 210704**

### Learning from home

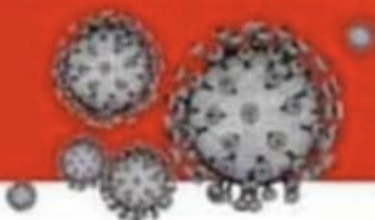
All children this week received a pack of work to use at home during this difficult time. Please note there are also numerous free weblink online resources which can be found on our website at:

[brambles.teesvalleyeducation.co.uk](http://brambles.teesvalleyeducation.co.uk)

Should your children have not received this pack please contact the academy to arrange suitable collection.

*During this period of uncertainty, the staff at Brambles Primary Academy are here to support our children and community as best we can. We hope you stay safe in the coming weeks and that we are welcoming you back soon..*

# Social Distancing:



## What does it mean?

It means stay away from places where people gather, avoid mass gatherings, and whenever not possible, maintains a distance of at least one metre from each other.<sup>1</sup> Together we can help to slow the infection from spreading away.

### Red Light – Avoid / Don't Do

- All gatherings of religious, commercial, official or personal nature (e.g. market/mall, cinema, meeting/conference, wedding, party/picnic, tuition, gym/yoga, dancing etc.) involving a sizeable and flowing crowd
- Social visitors or non-essential workers in your house
- Non-essential visitors in the workplace
- Non-essential travel in public transportation



### Yellow Light – Do with Caution

- Attend private gatherings limited to a few family members or known friends
- Travelling in a private transport (public transport only if it is a NECESSITY)
- Visit a local restaurant BUT choose the open-air type, sitting with at least one metre apart whenever possible (takeaway food is a better choice)
- Buying in a grocery store or supermarkets without a crowd
- Pick up medicines from the pharmacy without a crowd
- Play sports in the open air with family or a few known friends

### Green Light – Safe to Do

- Take a walk or jog in open park or stadium
- Cycling
- Play in the home garden, or go for a fun drive with family
- Read a book or listen to music in private
- Play games or watch TV/movie at home
- Home cooking and meals at home



➡ Wash your hands frequently with soaps and water, or alcohol-based hand rub.

➡ Best to do thing online whenever possible (e.g. Video chat, e-payment, internet games, or chat over a phone).

1. " World Health Organisation, March 2020."