

**Dear all,**

***I start with a heartfelt message, full of care and hope to the Ryelands School community in these very difficult and uncertain times. It is my intention to offer the school as a hub and contact point for the community, for as long as is possible according to Government guidelines– with phone-lines open, advice and support as required and of course to provide childcare where necessary for those specified children and to those of front-line workers.***

***As from today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, the advice and provision is as follows. This message has been sent out to families on the School App. If you do not have the App, you should have received a text message directing you to this website.***

As the government closes schools today, advice is for children to be cared for at home wherever possible. Social isolation is key to managing COVID-19.

Schools have been asked to 'provide childcare for key /critical workers and vulnerable children' **BUT** 'if it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be'.

At Ryelands we are offering the following, where absolutely needed:-

- Child care for 9am to 3.15pm for children of key / critical workers.
- Lunchtime food and supervision, 11.45am – 12.45am for children entitled to free school meals, vulnerable children and those with EHCPs.

Messages to parents of these groups will be sent directly with more information.

The school office will be staffed daily 9am – 3.15pm to serve as a hub for the community, available to answer questions by telephone or for other contact if required.

***We finished the day with a beautiful assembly, full of smiling children singing to the sounds of Bob Marley 'Don't worry about a thing'. The staff at Ryelands have done a tremendous job of taking the worry away from the children– I can't praise everyone enough for their commitment and care. I look forward to coming together in the near future to sing again.***

***Stay safe and well, with warmest wishes from Mrs Pye and the Ryelands team.***