

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We are entering an unprecedented time of enforced school closures. This is something that no Headteacher or senior leader would have thought that they would ever need to contemplate, especially on this scale and in these circumstances. The very fact that we are being asked, as a nation, to pull together and support our keyworkers to help fight this pandemic and keep the country safe could be seen as an overwhelming and daunting prospect. However, as leaders of our profession we have a duty to plan and carry this responsibility through.

Therefore, can I thank you, in advance, for what you have done so far in supporting your children and the school with a calm and sensible approach.

A letter was sent this morning asking for parents/carers of the children of keyworkers and the most vulnerable children to register their child via an online booking system; thank you to those who have already done this. A copy of the letter, with the links, is available on each of the school's websites.

Students who are coming in to school next week need to arrive for 8.45am in full uniform and will be cared for until 3.10pm. On each site on Monday, Caterlink will have food available at break and lunchtimes for students that are on site, whether they are eligible for free school meals or whether they purchase it. The Local Authority will continue to make home to school transport available to those children that are eligible to receive it, however, in some instances it will require some changes to be made which may take a little time.

Any students who are not going to be at school next week but are eligible for free school meals, can request for a packed lunch to be available for them to collect from the school reception on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 12 noon. If you require this to be available please complete the relevant survey below:

Carisbrooke College: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MBMWMNC>

Medina College: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MHSJ2YX>

The Island VI Form: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MPVY9HX>

Further communication will be made regarding the longer term planning of this.

A letter will be sent to all parents/carers early next week regarding pastoral support for students and further details of how work will be provided going forward.

It is important to acknowledge that these measures are being put in place to reduce contact between people and, therefore, the spread of the virus. So any parents that can have their children at home should be looking to do this, and children who are not in school do understand the reason for this.

If you have any queries, further information can be found at: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus), the Department for Education Helpline: 0800 046 8687 or email [dfe.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:dfe.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk).



Matthew Parr-Burman  
Executive Headteacher  
and Head of Carisbrooke College



Karen Begley  
Deputy Executive Headteacher  
and Head of Medina College



# Isle of Wight Education Federation

Please find listed below  
some useful numbers and advice over this period

## To report a concern

### What to do if you are concerned about a child

- If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact: 0300 300 0117.  
(This number is for the general public and runs 24 hours a day).
- In an **emergency** always contact the police by dialling **999**.

### If you suspect child abuse:

- Do listen to the child.
- Do take what the child says seriously.
- Do act quickly.
- Do continue to offer support to the child.
- Don't delay.
- Don't probe or push the child for explanations.
- Don't assume that someone else knows and will help the child. You must act.
- Don't be afraid to voice your concerns, the child may need urgent protection and help.

## Health concerns

The NHS 0-19 Public health team, including Health Visitors and School nurses will continue to be available via their duty desk: If young people have a health worry, they can call or email the school nurses directly via:

Tel: 01983 821388

Email: [0-19dutydesk@nhs.net](mailto:0-19dutydesk@nhs.net)

They also have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IOWPHTEAM/>

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We recommend that parents and young people have a look at these websites for general health advice:

<https://what0-18.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/>

**Other services:**

**CCAMHS** – 01983 523602

**Adult Social Care** – 01983 814980

**Banardo's hub** – 01983 529208

**Young Carers** – 01983 861071

**Community Fire Safety** – 01983 823399

**Youth Trust** – 01983 529569 email: [info@iowyouthtrust.co.uk](mailto:info@iowyouthtrust.co.uk) twitter: @IOWYouthTrust

**Wight DASH** - Refuge and outreach service for practical and emotional help  
01983 825981 - 24 hours a day

**Hampshire and IW Police**

08450 454 545 to report an incident, or to ask for the public protection department

IW police direct number – 01983 538707

In an emergency, dial 999

**Homelessness department** - for victims requiring emergency accommodation

01983 821105

**Mental health:**

Text the **YoungMinds** Crisis Messenger, for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis.

- If you need urgent help text YM to 85258
- All texts are answered by trained volunteers, with support from experienced clinical supervisors
- Texts are free from EE, O2, Vodafone, 3, Virgin Mobile, BT Mobile, GiffGaff, Tesco Mobile and Telecom Plus.
- **Call the Parents' Helpline: 0808 802 5544** (Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm, free for mobiles and landlines)
- **YoungMinds on Facebook**
- **Youngmindsuk- Instagram**
- **Youngmindsuk- Twitter**
- [www.youngminds.org.uk/](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/)

**Kissy Puppy - Children's and Families Bereavement Service** – 01983 533776

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## Pan Together

Downside Community Centre and the Isobel Community Café are closed until further notice to help with reducing all but essential social contact.

However, for those most affected by self-isolation who live within Pan, Pan Meadows and Barton and have little support, we will be offering:

- an affordable 'special of the day' meal delivery service. Order by 10.30 am for a delivery between 11.30 am and 1.30 pm;
- help with essential shopping;
- a prescription-collection service; and
- a helpline for anyone locally who is self-isolating without support.

Please phone 248-170 between 9 am and 6 pm or, in an emergency between 6 pm and 9 pm, phone Cllr Brodie on 521686 or email [enquiries@pantogether.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@pantogether.org.uk).

We are also looking for volunteers, particularly younger adults, to help us provide this service. Please contact us.

Please pass on these details to any of your neighbours who you think may need support.

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## Safeguarding News

Coronavirus: children's concerns Source: Childline Date: 12 March 2020

Childline has updated its website to include information to support children and young people concerned about coronavirus, The Independent has also published an article on advice from experts about how parents can respond to their children's concerns about coronavirus, and includes a comment from the NSPCC.

Visit Childline: [Worries about the world: coronavirus](#)

Read the news article: ['I went through my 10-year-old's search history and there was coronavirus': what should parents do about virus fear?](#)

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## Photography Competition

A photography competition was launched in February where we invited students to submit a photograph that they were proud of with the theme of the Isle of Wight. The standard of entries was extremely high and Mrs Rock had a difficult task on her hands in judging the top 3 entries. Well done to the following winners: 1st place: Billy (Y11) 2nd place: Reuben (Y10) and 3rd place: Zoe (Y8). Miss Begley presented certificates, a 'you are a star' pin badge, £5 voucher and arts/crafts set to students this morning. Well done to everyone who entered the competition.

