



Ark Ayrton
Nursery



Ark Ayrton
Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Anne H-Chapman

Somers Road
Southsea
Hampshire
PO5 4LS

Tel 02392 824828
info@arkayrtonprimary.org
www.arkayrtonprimary.org

KEY WORKER UPDATE FOR FULL SCHOOL CLOSURE

Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know, the Government has said that schools and nurseries must close from Friday 20th March but that they will open to support vulnerable students and those of certain key workers (see full details below).

The Government guidance emphasises that **parents should keep children at home wherever possible** and that the fewer children making the journey to school and the fewer children in educational setting, the lower the risk of the virus spreading. We all need to work together to try and stem the spread of the virus.

However, there are two categories of children for whom the school will continue to provide care at this time if needed:

- 1. Children who are vulnerable:** Full details of which children are covered are set out below.
- 2. Children whose parents are key workers and who meet ALL the following conditions:**
 - The parent must be in a critical role based on government advice - full details of these critical roles are below; **and**
 - The parent must have had confirmation from their employer that their specific role is necessary for the continuation of essential public service; **and**
 - Their child cannot otherwise be cared for safely at home.

If your children fall into either of the above two categories, please confirm to nursery by lunchtime that they will be attending nursery next week otherwise we cannot guarantee a place for your child.

Once you have let us know that you need to send your child to nursery, we will send you a form to complete. If you are a key worker, you will be asked to confirm your role and provide evidence of your role, that you are required by your employer and that your child cannot be cared for safely at home. And provide us with the days you need your child to attend.

Nursery opening times and fees

The nursery will be providing childcare from 8:30 till 4pm Monday to Friday, this will be reviewed regularly. This offer will run continuously until further notice.

Sessions available for key workers

8:30am – 4pm £40

8:30 – 1pm £25

1pm – 4pm £25

If you are entitled to funding this will be deducted from your invoice as usual.

Nappies and wipes ETC will not be provided at this time as we can not guarantee supply at this time.

Funding

If you are claiming 2, 3 and 4 yr old funding your child's space will be held open until further notice.

Fees

If you do not qualify as a key person your fees will not be charge from Monday 23rd March, all accounts and sessions will be held until further notice.

Nursery meals

At present we have provision to offer cooked lunches, if however, this becomes no longer a possibility you will be required to provide a packed lunch or re-heat for your child.

Learning at home

You will be receiving activity packs for your children and our Facebook page will have weekly activities and links to help keep the children busy during our closure period.

While schools are closed, we should all continue to follow health guidance.

Find out how to protect yourself here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For further information on the government response, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

We will continue to update you on any developments via text and with regular updates on the nursery's website and Facebook page.

Thank you so much for all your support, patience and understanding this week as we have been waiting for guidance to be able to plan.

The most important thing is that you all stay safe, look after yourselves and we will all look forward to seeing you as soon as we are able.

With best wishes

Mrs A H-Chapman
Head Teacher

Government Guidance on Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#).

Government Guidance on Key Workers

Health and social care

This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

