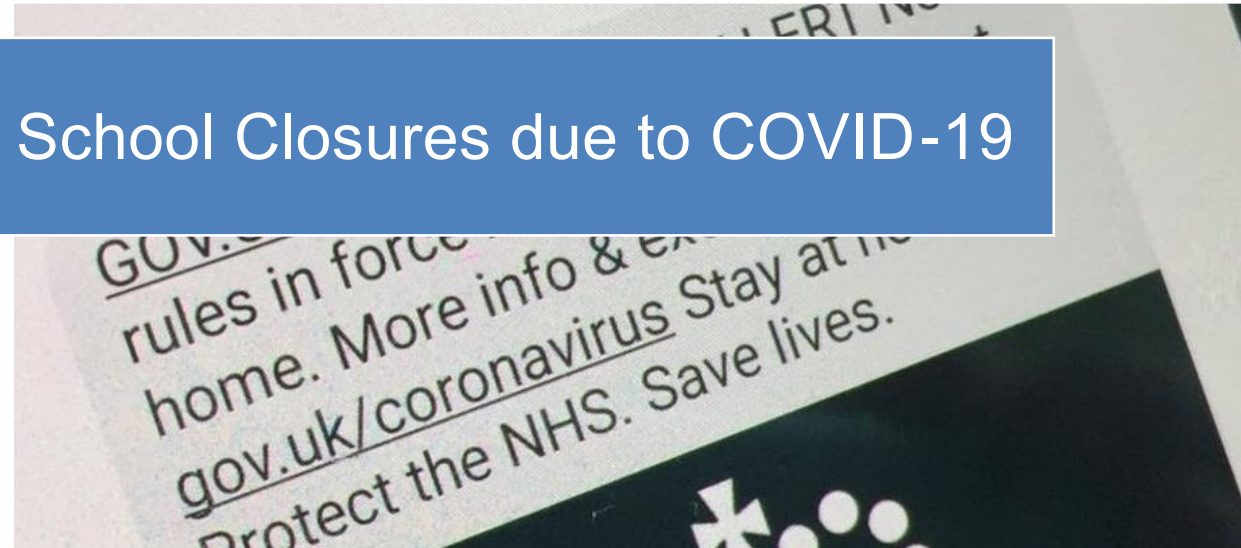


# March 2020

## Support for Families following School Closures due to COVID-19



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## Introduction

In response to the coronavirus outbreak, the Eden Academy Trust has temporarily closed all schools.

The closure of the schools is being reviewed on a regular basis but during this period our focus is on the wellbeing of our pupils, their families and how we can provide support and continued schooling during the coming weeks and months.

The virus has brought monumental change to how we teach and care for children and young people and presents a particular challenge for children and young people with disabilities as they, and their families, adapt to new social distancing measures and forms of learning.

The following is the support, advice and practical help our central services teams will provide to our families:

<b>Family Services Team</b>	
Online 'Parent Forum'. An online resource for a range of helpful resources, activities, well-being videos and top tips for working with children at home. The forum will be updated regularly so please check regularly to see what is available	Visit: <b><a href="https://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b>
Support for families using English as an additional language (EAL). Please let us know if you need support with this and we will do our best to find you the help you need	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk">lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>
A telephone helpline so parents can ask for help with social care issues. The phone will be monitored daily and all calls returned within the day. <i>For Hexham Priory School please contact One Call on <b>01670 536 400</b></i>	Social Care Issues Helpline number: <b>07535 289 094</b>
Access to food banks and food bank deliveries to family homes <i>Not available at Hexham Priory School</i>	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk">lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>
Distribution of Free School Meal vouchers <i>For Hexham Priory School contact <b><a href="mailto:admin@hexham.northumberland.sch.uk">admin@hexham.northumberland.sch.uk</a></b></i>	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk">lisa.hatcher@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>

<h2>Arts Therapy Team</h2>	
<p>Access to a range of videos and activities that will give ideas for keeping emotionally well at home.</p>	<p>Visit: <b><a href="https://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b></p>
<p>The arts therapists will provide videos to support children in understanding that school is closed</p>	<p>Visit: <b><a href="https://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b></p>
<p>Access to short videos that will feature therapists explaining the importance of songs and play and how these can be developed at home.</p>	<p>Visit: <b><a href="https://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b></p>
<p>Individual calls with arts therapists to discuss their child so the therapist can suggest ideas and activities that their child responds to particularly well. <b>This is only available for families currently in receipt of drama or music therapy from the Eden team</b></p>	<p>For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:eugenie.aitchison@theedenacademy.co.uk">eugenie.aitchison@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b></p>
<p>A telephone helpline so parents can ask for help with the emotional challenges their children may be facing. The phone will be monitored daily and all calls returned within the day. <b>This is only available for families currently in receipt of drama or music therapy from the Eden team</b></p>	<p>For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:eugenie.aitchison@theedenacademy.co.uk">eugenie.aitchison@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b></p>

Language and Communication Support Team	
'Word of the week' supported by ideas of how to use and reinforce this at home	Visit: <b><a href="http://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b>
Advice and signposting to useful websites and TV programmes for language & communication ideas and activities	Visit: <b><a href="http://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b>
Regular story time videos, delivered by one of our Language Team, supported by visual props	Visit: <b><a href="http://theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum">theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum</a></b>
Targeted resources, activities and videos that children and families can use at home. <b>This is only available for families currently in receipt of speech and language therapy from the Eden team</b> <i>For Hexham Priory School please contact Hayley Fawcett or Kelly Mannion on 01670 293 163 for a telephone or video call.</i>	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk">alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>
A booking service for parents to book a call with the speech and language therapist to discuss their child's development and what activities they could do at home. <b>This is only available for families currently in receipt of speech and language therapy from the Eden team</b>	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk">alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>
Interactive video language sessions run by a therapist. <b>This is only available for families currently in receipt of speech and language therapy from the Eden team</b>	For more information, email: <b><a href="mailto:alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk">alison.futerman@theedenacademy.co.uk</a></b>

<h2>Physical Services Team</h2> <p><b>All the services below are only available for children currently receiving physiotherapy or OT from the Eden team</b></p>	
<p>Information and advice of delivery therapy programmes for children at home (these have already been sent to families)</p>	<p>For more information, email: <b>jean.weert@theedenacademy.co.uk</b></p>
<p>Information and advice on key pieces of therapy equipment (that have already been delivered to families.)</p>	<p>For more information, email: <b>jean.weert@theedenacademy.co.uk</b></p>
<p>A telephone helpline so parents can discuss their child's physio or OT needs The phone will be monitored daily and all calls returned within the day.</p>	<p>Physical Health Helpline number: <b>07377 010 836</b></p>
<p>Regular calls for the Physical Services team to provide guidance and advice on the programmes families have already received</p>	<p>For more information, email: <b>jean.weert@theedenacademy.co.uk</b></p>
<p>Video conference calls are available to support families with their programmes</p>	<p>For more information, email: <b>jean.weert@theedenacademy.co.uk</b></p>

## Summary

The service responses outlined in this paper is just the beginning of the support packages we are developing for families.

How they develop further will be very much guided by your feedback and response.