

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Ark Swift has closed today and will remain closed to the vast majority of pupils until further notice.**

### Free school meals

We will make sure that families of students who qualify for Free School Meals have information on our plans to provide food for children as soon as we have finalised them.

Our plan is to provide **£4 per day per child** in the form of Tesco e-vouchers for:

- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
- Any children in KS2 eligible for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

In order to set this up we need your email address. Please email Jessica in the School Office ([j.pawsey@arkswiftprimary.org](mailto:j.pawsey@arkswiftprimary.org)) with your email address. In your email to Jessica, please include your child/children's names (first name and surname).

We hope to have this active from early next week and will send 2-weeks' worth of e-vouchers at a time.

### Learning at home

It is not possible to fully replicate the educational experience at home. We have been working hard for several weeks to put in place contingency plans to ensure students can still access work and teachers are able to support their learning.

Today, every child will bring home a learning pack. This will provide learning activities for the next two weeks. If your child is already self-isolating or unwell, a pack will be delivered to your home address at some point on Monday.

Stay fit and healthy with Joe Wicks! Joe Wicks announces he will hold free PE lessons on his YouTube Channel for children who are out of school due to coronavirus pandemic.



### Message from Joe

*'It's a workout specifically designed for kids. Because when the schools closed, there is no PE. Don't worry, I've got you.'*

*'I'm going to take this over. I'm going to get your kids moving, fit and energised, positive and optimistic. He added: 'It's a 30-minute session for little kids right up to secondary school, get involved, have fun.'*

*'We're going to be doing loads of basic exercises. You don't need a lot of room.'*

We are currently developing a strategy for if school remains closed beyond the Easter break. We will share details of this with you in due course.

### **Keeping in touch**

You will receive a phone call from your child's class teacher at least once per week for a chat with you and your child. During the call, teachers will check-in, chat about their home learning and answer any questions/provide any help assistance as needed. Miss Burton and Miss Leach will also be making calls to some families.

I am sure the regular phone calls will be something your children (and the teachers) look forward to!

### **If your child becomes ill**

If your child becomes unwell during the period of closure, we need to know so we can track possible cases of coronavirus. Please email any sickness information to:

[info@arkswiftprimary.org](mailto:info@arkswiftprimary.org)

or call the school office on 020 8743 2514

### **Child protection**

It is particularly important that we safeguard the well-being of all children during the time of school closure.

### **Anyone can contact us if they are worried that a child may be at risk**

Miss Leach ([a.leach@arkswiftprimary.org](mailto:a.leach@arkswiftprimary.org))

Miss Burton ([s.burton@arkswiftprimary.org](mailto:s.burton@arkswiftprimary.org))

You can also contact Hammersmith and Fulham Children's Services:

Our family services front door service are told about cases of possible abuse or neglect by teachers, doctors, health visitors and members of the public. They also hear from parents needing support, other family members concerned about a child's welfare and sometimes children themselves.

They also help with any queries you may have about support for children in the borough. Regardless of who contacts us, we take the information seriously.

If you have a concern about a child or young person, you can contact us:

020 8753 6600

[familyservices@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:familyservices@lbhf.gov.uk)

Walk-in: Ground Floor, 145 King St, Hammersmith, W6 9XY

Out of hours service: 020 8748 8588

If you have an immediate concern for the wellbeing of a child or young person, call the police on 999.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Childline is yours – a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything. Whatever your worry, whenever you need help, we're here for you online, on the phone, anytime.



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 emails/text and with regular updates on the school website:

<https://arkswift.org/life-school/coronavirus-%E2%80%93-updates-parents>

It is an unsettling and disruptive time for everyone, and we know that you are worried about the impact this might have on our community, city and nation, as whole. It is important that we keep each other safe, support each other during these difficult times and talk about these events to help with any anxiety. We will work together as a school and local community to face the challenging times ahead. Thank you for your support and understanding during these exceptional circumstances. If we can do anything more to help your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Daniel Upfield  
Principal