



19 March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware, headteachers, teachers and support staff across Maiden Erlegh Trust schools have been working extremely hard to educate and provide for your children in these unprecedented times. In addition, they have been planning for closure. I appreciate that this is frustrating and stressful for you and your children also, but we are determined to do the best we can for you. I repeat my unreserved thanks to my colleagues across the Trust for their hard work at this time.

I apologise for this long letter, but we wanted to put as much information in one place, rather than sending out lots of communications.

**Provision from Monday 23 March 2020**

Following the speech from Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education, yesterday afternoon, Maiden Erlegh Trust is keen to play its part in providing for children of key workers and vulnerable children.

As a minimum these are:

- Children of NHS workers
- Children of police officers
- Children of fire officers
- Children of teachers and school support staff
- Children of social and care workers
- Children with parents who are food or medical delivery drivers.

In addition to:

- Children with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)
- Children who are Looked After
- Children with allocated social workers.

The full list of designated 'Key Workers' will be published later on Thursday 19 March and is subject to review.

**ACTION ACTION ACTION ACTION**  
If your child falls into one of these categories,  
please can you fill in the following questions.

Maiden Erlegh School  
Maiden Erlegh School in Reading  
Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/METSchClos>

Great Hollands Primary School:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GHPSSchClo>

This information is important for us to be able to register your child and ensure they are safely in our care.

**PLEASE CAN WE HAVE YOUR RESPONSE  
BY 9.30am FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2020.**

### **Maiden Erlegh Trust Secondary Schools**

From Monday 23 March, and until further notice from the Department of Education (DfE), provision for children in the above categories from Maiden Erlegh School, Maiden Erlegh School in Reading and Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge will be consolidated at **Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, Crescent Road, RG1 5SL**.

By consolidating our provision onto one of our sites, we can use staff from all three schools to ensure familiarity for the students. It also means we will be more able to mitigate for staff absences where possible.

A full timetable will not be provided, but we will facilitate and support students' completion of the online work set to their peers. We will also endeavour to provide opportunities for physical education.

- The school day will start at 9am
- The school day will end at 3pm

We will expect students to wear their respective school uniforms. The same expectations of conduct and respect will be expected and all policies will continue to apply.

Transport will be provided from MECE however, the details of this are still being finalised and are dependent upon the number of responses we receive. We would also hope to be able to offer a pick up in Caversham en route to Maiden Erlegh Reading although again this is still to be confirmed.

Please understand that we will continue to monitor capacity and if circumstances dictate that we cannot supervise your children safely, we may need to reduce provision further.

### **Secondary public examinations**

The Secretary of State has said that this academic year's exams will not go ahead and we await further guidance on how pupils and students will be credited for their work. We understand that this will be published on Friday 20 March. It may be that students have the opportunity to submit pieces of work as moderation pieces or take papers later on and **so it is important that students keep up with their work as far as possible**.

### **Year 6 SATs**

Your child will no longer need to undertake the SATs tests in May, however as you know, we do not educate our children to simply pass these tests instead we strive to give our children then the best start at secondary school we will continue to provide our children with plenty of learning opportunities to ensure a strong start to Year 7.

### **Other Maiden Erlegh Trust Schools**

- **Hamilton School** will remain closed until the end of the Easter holidays due to a significant staff shortage in the provision. A letter will be sent directly from Jane Straw, Headteacher, with regard to provision from 20 April 2020.
- **Great Hollands Primary School** will clarify its provision for the identified pupils in a separate letter.

### **Provision for children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM)**

The Government is currently developing a national approach to providing vouchers for supermarkets and other shop. We are currently sourcing these and will contact all the children entitled to FSM with details on how to access these vouchers as soon as possible.

### **Easter Holiday Provision**

With regard to provision during the Easter holidays, we will write directly to parents who are designated as 'key workers' separately with what we are able to provide.

Once again, thank you for your patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Mary Davies  
Chief Executive Officer



Jonathon Peck  
Chief Financial and Operations Officer