

North Halifax Partnership Ltd, Kevin Pearce Children's Centre, Ovenden Road, Halifax, HX3 5RQ Tel: 01422 251090. Company registered in England and Wales No. 4365411

19 March 2020

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Following our statement earlier in the week, we have updated our planning and precaution measures being put in place across North Halifax Partnership regarding Coronavirus in light of yesterday's government update.

As of **6pm 20 March 2020** we will suspend delivery of all our Children's Centre Groups, all of our Children's Centre family and adult learning activities and all our Community events until further notice.

Information will go out weekly via our website and social media with ideas for different activities that can be completed at home with children, so please keep accessing our pages for some fun activities to keep your children entertained. We will also continue to update our pages with Government guidance and local information around Coronavirus and any support available.

Our Family Support Workers will be suspending all home visits from today and they will conduct all short-breaks reviews or any changes to short breaks via telephone calls.

All Family Support, Perinatal and family outreach cases will receive weekly telephone support (more contacts if deemed necessary).

As per the government announcement yesterday, all our Children's Centre nurseries will close at 6pm on Friday until further notice, we will maintain telephone contact with our most vulnerable families. No fees will be charged during closure. We are awaiting further government advice as to whether we will be required to provide childcare to key workers or for vulnerable children as indicated in the announcement yesterday. If it is expected that we will be doing this we will be making contact with the families individually.

Our Children's Centre buildings remain open at the minute and staff based in these Centres will be offering support to our most vulnerable families, at present our partners who deliver health services will continue to deliver their services.

If you need support please contact your local Children's Centre or the main office on 01422 251090. You will find our latest updates and contact details on our website www.surestartchildrenscentresnhp.org.uk or on Facebook SurestartchildrenscentresNHP

In regards to the work of our Neighbourhood Teams, please be aware that all Ward Forums are cancelled until further notice.

As the situation regarding Coronavirus continues to develop we understand that for lots of people this is a worrying time especially if you are or know someone who is elderly, or has a health condition.

The North and East Neighbourhood Team have already suspended all non-essential meetings and activities.

Instead they are monitoring community issues and offering advice and support to communities where they can, in partnership with the Council, the Police, the voluntary sector and our Staying Well colleagues.

To report a community issue, or if you know someone who is isolated or vulnerable, or if you are a community group and would like some advice our Neighbourhood Team office number is 0300 555 0266.

However please be aware that if we do not answer we may be working from home and might not pick up your message. If we do not answer please email us at team@halifaxnorthandeast.com, or message us on Facebook @halifaxnorthandeast

We will continue to share community information that we receive on the North East Halifax Blog.

Our Staying Well team have suspended home visits and accompanying clients to activities this week. Instead they are focusing on contacting all their clients to offer help and support to plan for the next few months.

They will also be checking in with community groups around their immediate plans and offering support where they can.

If you know someone who is isolated or vulnerable, or if you are a community group and would like some advice, call Staying Well on 01422 392767, or email stayingwellproject@calderdale.gov.uk or message them on Facebook @StayingWellCalderdale

Guidance from the government is ever changing and decisions are being made daily by the government, we will continue to follow the recommended advice and practice and we will keep you all up to date. Please keep your eye on our websites and social media for any updates.

Kind Regards

Tina Burke (Chief Executive) North Halifax Partnership