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Headteacher: Ms Karen Martin

Dear Parents/Carers

Today we can confirm that Lowerplace will be closing to all children on Friday 17th July 2020 for the summer break as has always been the plan. The DfE have recently confirmed that there is **no expectation that schools should open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers over the summer holiday.**

Importantly they also stated: ***"Teachers, support staff and school leaders deserve a break, to recharge and rest."***

They further added: "We can confirm that providers offering paid childcare will be able to operate over the summer holidays, in line with protective measures guidance. Additional funded activities may be available in local areas, such as Holiday Activities and Food scheme".

We will share with parents/carers any local provision through our website once we receive notification. We are investigating the summer voucher scheme for our eligible families and will contact all eligible families directly with an update.

We are still awaiting official guidance from the DfE with regard to September. Gavin Williamson, Education Secretary, is set to make a statement in the House of Commons this morning, laying out plans for schools going forward during the coronavirus pandemic. We then hope the official guidance will follow by the end of tomorrow at the latest. As a school and in liaison with the local authority we will then update our risk assessment and plans for September as quickly as we can. These plans will then be shared directly with parents/carers via email.

Please do not hesitate contacting school via [office@lowerplace.rochdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@lowerplace.rochdale.sch.uk) if you have any questions.

A huge thank you to all our parents and carers for their support and understanding in these strange times.

Please continue to follow the public health guidelines regarding social distancing and socialising to help keep everyone safe.

With kind regards

Ms Karen Martin  
Headteacher



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