

19th March 2020

Dear parents

School closure

You will be aware that the government has announced that all schools will close for an indefinite period at the end of school tomorrow, Friday 20th March

There have been announcements in general terms about provision for vulnerable children and for the children of key workers. At this point in time there is very little detail available. For example, we don't know whether eligible children will be educated in their own schools or in local hubs. We also don't yet know which roles are officially categorised as key workers. Arrangements for continuation of free school meals are also still unclear.

We have therefore made the following arrangements:

In the short term

- School will close at 3.20pm on Friday 20th March.
- All children will be given home learning packs tomorrow.
- We will post home learning packs to children who are absent.
- School will be closed completely on Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March. No children should attend on this date. This is to allow us time to plan and prepare, once our new responsibilities are clear.
- From Monday, children should use their home learning packs.
- They should also access DB Primary and other apps (links on our website) to support their learning.
- We will contact parents of children who we believe meet the criteria for continued attendance early next week, with the intention of having suitable arrangements in place by Wednesday 25th March. Please do not send your child to school unless we have contacted you directly.
- We will ask parents to let us know if they are key workers once the designation has been clarified by the government; please keep an eye on Twitter for a message.

In the longer term

- School will continue to be closed for most children until the government directs otherwise.
- We are exploring ways to continue to support your child's learning in different ways.
- We will aim to make direct contact with each family at least weekly, usually by telephone.
- We will keep you informed as best we can – usually via Twitter or our website.

I appreciate this is a worrying time for us all. Please be assured that we are putting the well-being of children and staff at the heart of every decision we make.

Best wishes

Judith Stott
Principal