



Norley Church Of England Primary School
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Dear Parents and carers,

Thank you so much for your patience while we have been waiting for further guidance about next week. We have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after today, until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers, see Government list published this morning, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers> and children with certain needs. Obviously keeping our staff healthy remains a priority because without them we would not have a service to provide for any children.

So, can I please urge all parents who have capacity to isolate their children by keeping them at home to do so. The government have requested this and have said, 'if children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the Government guidance. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.**

If one parent is eligible and their work is classified as a key worker, school will be open as from Monday. All other children will need to stay at home.

Please note that this is a national closure, as you will have heard on the news, so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll fully re-open as soon as we can and will let you know via School Spider, website, email and text message.

This will be a different service to normal education. It will perhaps not consist of regular lessons and will include the children working on the tasks as posted on the class pages of the website. We will become a service to support front line workers.

For those eligible, school will be open from 8.45am to 3.15pm. Parents will be asked to drop off their children at the front entrance in the morning and pick up from there at the end of the day. Hot meals will continue and parents can pay for these on Parent Pay as normal.

Unfortunately, we have been informed that Fun House Link Club will not be operating at Norley during this time.

Children who are eligible for a free school meal under Pupil Premium circumstances, will be able to pick up a meal from school each day even if they are not attending. Please can you inform us if you intend to take up this offer.

Your child's continued learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn by setting work on the class pages of the website. The children have been talked through this today and are confident they can access it. All children have a homework book to record this work if they wish. The BBC have also announced they will be running curriculum programs on their website each day.

This is as much as we know right now and appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We have had some beautiful and encouraging messages from parents, for this we would like to thank you they have really helped this past week. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on your family and it's far from ideal, but we will keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

As we said in our letter yesterday, the admin email will be checked at least once a day and we will endeavour to respond as quickly as possible. Please don't hesitate to contact us at all.

These are certainly very strange times. I would hope that things will go back to normal by the summer. Until then, take care of yourselves and your families, reach out if you need anything at all.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Helen Kelly
Headteacher