

Dear Parents and Carers

This letter provides updates on our current position at Woodloes Primary School as of Monday 23rd March 2020, the first day of the partial school closure.

Firstly, I would like to offer my very sincere thanks to all of our parents and carers who have been able to keep their children at home today. Your actions are helping to keep other children and our staff as safe as possible and I know that many of you are having to make difficult decisions at home to make this happen.

Many people have been coming to terms with this over the weekend, with many seemingly refusing to acknowledge the seriousness of the situation. This is a national emergency and **all parents are urged to keep their children at home unless it is 'absolutely necessary' for them to be in school**. I would therefore ask you to please help us to make the school as safe as possible by only sending your child/ren to school if you absolutely must and not because it is convenient.

For parents at home:

I hope that your children enjoyed accessing the virtual classroom on the website today and I hope the novelty of this doesn't wear off too quickly. We will continue to think creatively and provide you with good quality learning experiences. Mrs Barlow will be monitoring this for us in school and will support the staff with the ongoing management of this. I understand that the website kept timing out after 10 minutes today but I hope this was a temporary glitch resulting from the nations children all logging on at the same time.

For parents at school:

- The drop off and collections worked well from the hall this morning and will continue.
- From tomorrow please ensure your children bring a packed lunch. We will have to operate a reduced lunchtime service from tomorrow and will only have packed lunches available for children eligible for free school meals.
- There will be further reductions to the number of staff in school in the next few days so please only send your child/children to school if it is absolutely necessary and only leave them in school for the shortest amount of time possible. If you can collect early then please do.
- Our School Emergency Response Team (SERT) are meeting daily to review our organisation and we will stay in touch with you to keep you informed of future developments.

It is of paramount importance that we take this situation seriously. As much as we want to try to carry on as normal, we can't and won't be able to for some time to come. We all need to look out for one another and do what we can to limit the spread of the infection and we are proud to be able to help our Key Workers who are on the front line.

Many thanks for your continuing support during these extraordinary times.

Yours sincerely

Andy Mitchell (Head Teacher)