



Woodthorpe Community Primary School
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22/03/2020

Coronavirus (Covid – 19) – UPDATE – Sunday 22nd March 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

Just a quick update to keep you in the loop regarding the latest developments in our response to the current situation.

Key Workers, Vulnerable Children and Reduced Provision

School is officially closed on Monday, it will however open for a very small number of children. If your child is one of these, you will have been notified by school on Friday. We will be reviewing this provision tomorrow as the directive from the government is that –

'If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.'

This includes children with **Education and Healthcare Plans** as well as those who are the children of keyworkers. Where arrangements can safely be made for your child to be away from school, these are preferable to them mixing with larger numbers. The drive to create 'social distance and isolation' is very much the reason for this as the medical advice strongly suggests.

Finally, just a reminder, if your child or anyone in the household has developed any of the symptoms – a new, persistent cough or a high temperature – they must stay at home.

Free School Meals

Next week we will ensure children who are eligible for Free School Meals will be provided with lunch. These will be delivered as a packed lunch and will be available from school from 12 o'clock. We are exploring the government 'voucher scheme' and hope to set this up as soon as possible. This will allow those eligible for Free School Meals to access a voucher, which can be used at certain supermarkets. When we have more information regarding this we will let you know immediately.

Distance Learning

A team of staff from across school are already working on this. There will be updates from this team across the week and more work for the children to do very soon. There will also be a number of suggestions as to how you can best use many of the other resources that have been made available including Podcasts, television programmes and online activities. The aim is that within a few weeks, the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) will be up and running, offering ongoing learning activities for each and every child. This will require a username and password, which will be sent out to you over the coming week.

And finally...

It was with a heavy heart that I locked up school on Friday night. It felt different, like nothing I've ever experienced. I'm sure many of you have experienced similar feelings. I would just like to say a huge thank you to those of you who have been so kind during this challenging time. You cannot possibly know how much I've appreciated your messages, your understanding and your support. I have worked at Woodthorpe long enough now to know that individually you are remarkable people and collectively you are unbeatable! **We will come back from this crisis and we will come back stronger.** Keep safe, keep in touch and look after each other.



Thanks, as always, for your support and understanding in this difficult time.

If you have any further questions, please use the links above or, if necessary, contact me at school.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the 'i'.

Dave Smith – Headteacher

