



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

As I am sure most of you are aware, I am now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers during their shifts (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services and delivery drivers) and children with certain needs. If your child is in the need category, we will let you know.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on key workers, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you think your child may fall into this category. Please ring the school office on 01594 822311 giving your child's name, class and why they should continue to attend school. We will contact all these parents as soon as we have more information about who qualifies.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by parentmail and by using the website.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn. We will be sending work home, and putting packs on the year group padlets to enable your children to continue to learn during the coming weeks. From the start of next term, teachers will begin to set work which will be accessible through the class padlets. We have already set up class emails so that you and your children can contact their teachers for any guidance. We would ask that you share any work by photographing it and sending this picture in through email. Not all work will be returned, but all work will be looked at and when this is over, we will have a celebration of all the work completed during school closures.



St White's Primary School
Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate



If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to help you, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

Obviously, as the school is closed to most pupils, we will no longer be able to continue with any school trips or clubs. Also, the government has announced that there will be no exams this summer. We will keep you informed of how they plan to manage this as soon as we have any further information.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us, as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family but we will continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please do not hesitate to do so. We will try to maintain a presence in the school office every school day.

Remember, if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please follow the government's advice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Any money which parents have paid for school dinners, wraparound or school trips will remain on your parentpay accounts as credit. If any parents would like money to be refunded, please email admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk to let us know and we will try to action this as soon as possible – but please bear with us, it may take some time.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Kind regards

Clare Tilling
Headteacher