



Saltford
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School
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Headteacher: Dawn Sage
Co-Chairs of Governors: Megan Jackson and Richard Rowland

20th March 2020

****AMENDED 21st MARCH DUE TO CHANGE OF LOCATION****

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: COVID 19 update – school closure

Following on from the [letter from the CEO](#) of our WMAT, Andrea Arlidge, I am writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice.**

Please note that this is a national closure – as you will 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 e-mail and text.

If your child usually receives free school meals due to **income support** we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government will be announcing shortly. With regards to infant free school meals and support for your family we are also awaiting government guidance.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to provide support for the children of key workers (please see the published list below) and children with an educational health care plan or social worker. Just to clarify our children who have education health care plans have one to one teaching assistants with them in the classrooms to access their learning. Myself or Mrs Godwin have contacted you all to see what support is required moving forwards.

Key workers (published by the Government on: 20th March 2020.)

Please see [here](#) for a detailed list of Key workers.

It is important to note:

“If at all possible for the children to be at home, then they should be.”

Please note that **Saltford Primary School will now be used as the site for local key workers’ children.** Mrs Spincer and I will be at Saltford Primary School at 9am on the morning of Monday 23rd March ready to welcome our key worker children.

Some of our Teaching staff will be allocated to teach our key workers’ children so do take that into consideration as well as also supporting children to learn at home. All WMAT staff will be working on a rota basis also – including our office team and caretaker.

I know that our key workers will also take into consideration:

- If your child has, or develops, a new cough or a temperature, you must ensure that they do not attend the school allocated to them. This is essential. As we work to keep our schools serving our communities, we do need the support and co-operation of families to ensure that children remaining in a school setting are not exposed to those with symptoms. And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, [please check the information on our website here](#) for all the latest links.

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

Our aim is that all pupils are supported to learn over time:

As a staff team we are working to ensure that we provide excellent online learning for children both in the short and the long term. Your child's learning is of course important to us and we will continue to support your child to learn. Please take into consideration that this week our staff have been teaching their classes or some of them are poorly and therefore we need your patience moving forwards. Details of our current plan for continuing education remotely:

- Pupils have all taken home a home learning resource pack and we have posted details of home learning on our news page [here](#)
- We will also be posting items on our curriculum pages and our class pages as and when we can.
- All our families have different circumstances and therefore we appreciate your guidance in organising your child's day. We know it helps our children to have routine and structure to the day if possible and to find a quiet place for them to complete their school work. We will of course be sharing your ideas for home learning and plans for your week. We have encouraged the children to take this opportunity to develop new skills in art, music and exercise for example.

We are postponing the following currently:

- School trips and camps (we will contact you when we can to discuss any reimbursements as and when we can – we appreciate your patience with this)
- Chuckles wrap around care
- Events including PTA events
- (As per Government decision) Internal exams and tests - for example the Y2 and Y6 SATs, Y1 phonics and Y4 Multiplication Checks.

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

What can you do to support our Community?

There will be many ways that we can work together in our communities in the coming weeks as we need to depend on each other more than ever. Please [see the latest community news and links](#) on our website which we will keep updated including support for our Food Bank and drop off points for this.

Thank you in advance for all your support. I would also like to thank all those parents who have sent positive messages of support to their schools during this extraordinary time – our staff are passionate about doing their best for your children and we do appreciate all you do for the school. The chocolate biscuits and flowers were much appreciated by our fantastic PTA. I wish you and your families all the best over the coming period and hope that we can return to school as soon as possible. You can always find the latest updates via our [website](#) and Twitter [@SaltfordPrimary](#). Our school email: contactus@saltfordschool.org.uk will also be monitored each day. Thank you again and we will be in touch with more information when we can. In the meantime our love and best wishes go out to all our families.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Sage

Headteacher

