



Old Church C.E. (C) Primary School
School Street
Darlaston
Wednesbury
WS10 8DL
0121 568 6329
Headteacher: Ms D Clacy

March 18th 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Covid-19 Update

I hope that you don't mind me contacting you regularly to give you updates on the current situation.

Staffing/ Class closures

We currently have no children or staff who have tested positive for Covid-19 that we know of. However, we do have a shortage of staff due to either their children being sent home or members of their family self- isolating.

We have had to close Nursery due to staff shortage in the school. We are relocating them to other areas of the school. My staff are a hardy, fantastic bunch and are soldiering on until we are told to close or have no staff or children left!

Work

Work packs are being sorted. Please be patient:

- Nursery packs are in the Ralph Bayley House waiting for collection
- Reception books will be sent out today
- Ks1 and Ks2 packs will be sent later today.
- Staff will contact you via *Marvellous Me* on a regular basis if school is closed fully.
- We have recommended websites for online books and activities. We cannot send reading books home due to the potential spread of the virus.
- We have provided a mixture of paper based and online work to help everybody
- Use the opportunity to play games with your children, read their books with them and talk to your children. This is

Hardship

Families will inevitably be suffering hardship due to the current climate and we are really concerned about our children. We do have food bank vouchers in school if families need help. Please do not be proud. See either myself or Mrs Lawley and we can issue the vouchers.

Key Workers

Even if I have to close classes down, due to staff absence, I will endeavour to take the children of NHS workers, the police, teachers and support staff. If you do not fall into any of these categories, but have an essential job which requires you to be at

work, please contact me and I will endeavour to help. I will not keep children in school who are displaying any symptoms or who have been informed to self-isolate.

Attendance

I posted yesterday that the Government have said that families will not be penalised if they are following the advice about self-isolation.

I would like to say thank you for your cooperation and patience. These are unprecedented times, which my Granny would have had no problem dealing with. However, we are totally unprepared for what is happening as a generation which has not had the struggles our Grandparents and Great Grandparents did.

Please keep safe and follow the advice which is given. Watch the news feeds from the Prime Minister at around 4pm because if schools are to close this is when I will hear about it too.

Kind Regards
Davina Clacy