

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Good Evening,

I would imagine you are all aware by now that the Government have just announced the closure of all schools till after February half term.

While the information isn't a wholehearted surprise the speed at which this decision has been made and thrust upon us now makes it very difficult for the whole school community.

I am sure you can appreciate that we haven't had any opportunity to survey families to find the level of need to support critical workers and the most vulnerable children. The decision to close schools with less than 24 hours' notice leaves a significant complex situation.

For that reason, I would ask that you keep your child at home if possible tomorrow to allow the senior leadership team to put together an action plan to support all families over the next 6 weeks.

Tomorrow morning, we will send a short survey to canvas the need for a key worker place in school. We will be offering places to those with two critical worker parents initially until we can assess the need for places.

For critical worker children tomorrow, if you find you are unable to keep your child at home please call the school by 8.15 am to help us prepare classes and appropriate staffing levels. Please bring a packed lunch as I am unsure whether we will be able to get school dinners to school. There will be breakfast and after school provision tomorrow if absolutely necessary.

For all other children who are now remaining at home we will be supporting your learning remotely. Tomorrow we will post 2 days work for the children to do initially but considering the length of the new lockdown I would like to work with staff to ensure the work that follows is appropriate and progressive. The work for your child will be emailed to you in the morning.

I am so sorry that we find ourselves in this position again. Hopefully we have made huge improvements in our ability to support home learning but I ask that you bear with us to begin with as we had planned to launch google classroom on Thursday.

I am sure you have many questions; my head is currently swimming with them but I would ask you give us some time to work through a plan and tomorrow I will write again with more details.

I will be at school tomorrow from 7.30 am and will be able to take phone calls on 01404 841291 if you need my help.

Thinking positively let's hope with the new vaccination this is the last time we may need to have to do this.

Thank you for your continued support and I appreciate in advance you're understanding and patience with the school while we work through the situation we find ourselves in.

with best wishes,  
*Mrs Hammett*

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