



Bishop Loveday C of E Primary School
White Post Road
Bodicote
Banbury
Oxon
OX15 4BN

Headteacher:
Mrs J Ridley

Tel: **01295 263157**

Email: office.3351@bishop-loveday.oxon.sch.uk

Web: www.bishop-loveday.oxon.sch.uk

17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the rapidly changing advice regarding Coronavirus, I thought it was worth writing to prepare you for any changes the school may have to consider in the coming days and weeks. Please ensure that you read to the end of this lengthy communication.

The Government advice last week was largely expected and included a greater emphasis on self-isolation. As I shared in recent emails, essentially, we have been directed to send home any child or adult with a fever or persistent cough. If this should happen, the advice is that self-isolation should then follow for a period of a full week. All family members are also advised to self-isolate for 14 days. We would also encourage vulnerable children (those with medical conditions, as per the guidance) or those with vulnerable members of the family, including pregnancy. This leave will be authorised. This will obviously affect children, parents and staff and therefore could impact on the day-to-day running of the school. If or when we find ourselves in this situation, the following actions may be taken:

- Putting classes together with shared staff
- Dividing classes between teachers

Other measures we will be putting in to place as from tomorrow include asking all adults to stay out of the school building as much as possible. After drop off, please leave the school site promptly. We are seeking to avoid the school community coming together in large numbers and at peak times.

Please use the school office email or phone number to communicate with us, rather than coming into school unless you absolutely need to. Should you not get a quick response, please understand that it will be because we are busy supporting children and/or staff. I know this all sounds very anti-social but these are hopefully short-term measures that will enable us all to stay fit for work and school, for as long as possible.

Today, I have cancelled all activities involving external teachers and adults. This includes all clubs that are not led by our own staff, all music lessons and other activities. We are in conversation with Green Park, where our year 4 children are attending a residential visit after the Easter break. I will keep you updated regarding any changes.



At this point I think it is important to add context and reality. Despite the Education Minister's announcement that schools will remain open for the time being, we are doing what we must, including preparing for a national closure. We have an ever-changing action plan, that includes planning for how and when we will communicate with parents and vice versa, health and safety elements and what action would be taken should staff fall ill. If we have to close, we will provide learning activities for the children. This will be a mix of Purple Mash activities, power points, website links, spellings, phonics games and some suggested non screen activities that the children can try. At the time of any closure we will send the children home with any resources that may be relevant to their age or stage. The majority of the staff team have young families or dependants so we will do our very best to balance supporting our school community as well as our own families.

With this in mind, **it is important that you make us aware if your child will not have access to a computer to view this work and please make sure we have your correct email address and ensure you are checking your emails regularly.** During this period we will endeavour to use email for only essential communication, so when you get an alert, please read the messages carefully.

Please send any amendments to your contact details to: mham2957@bishop-loveday.oxon.sch.uk

Finally, please can I ask you to speak to us directly if you are worried or concerned or have any further questions. Be assured that if there is something we all need to know - or if there is something that potentially increases the risk for you or your child - we will share that information ASAP and act upon it.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the staff team during this time, it is hugely appreciated. Whatever challenges we may face in the next week or so, I feel confident that we will meet these together.

Yours sincerely



Jane Ridley
Headteacher



