



Kirtlington  
C.E. School

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **Coronavirus update and school closure plan**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from my last update, 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 (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. 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 Home Learning Plan**

Your child's learning is very important to us so we will continue to help your child with their learning.

If your child has not been in school this week, you will find information about the learning they have missed on the school website under the class page and section called: **Emergency school closure work**. Please ensure you arrange with someone in the school community to collect your child's personal belongings from school on Friday.

From **Monday**, your child will be able to access an online learning system from home. There will be a letter with information about this system and a permission letter to access the system accompanying this newsletter.

-Each class teacher will upload work every day at approximately 9am.

-This work will be for children to complete independently and to the best of their ability and the class teacher will have already shared this expectation with the children.

-If a child is unable to complete a task/ question, they should leave it and move onto the next task/ question so that the teacher can see what the child was able to do and plan subsequent work accordingly.

-The following day, the class teacher, where appropriate, will upload answers to previous days learning or feedback to pupils through the online system.

We appreciate this is a new way of working and there could be some difficulties for all new users (including for staff). If this is the case, please be **patient** with us, email the school office and we will ensure this is passed onto the class teacher. There could also be delays with some online systems on Monday if all school teachers in the country are using similar platforms. For the first week, we will also post the work on the school website under the class page and section called: **Emergency school closure work**.

The children will be sent home with a new Home Learning book which the work will sometimes be completed in. We will ask the children to bring these books into school when we reopen. For Reception children, there will be a new online platform called Tapestry for you to share your child's work. This is a system we have been using in school for a while and were going to introduce you to next term.



Headteacher: Louise Williams

Chair of Governors: Paul Clifford

School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

We will set daily work until Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April when the school Easter holidays begin. We will continue to set Home Learning on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April if school has not reopened.

We will not be setting additional home learning which is usually set on a Friday during this time.

### How can I manage Home Learning?

- We suggest you set up a routine at home which involves getting up at the same time as you normally would for school and having things that you do in a regular order
- In school we start the day with a reading or spelling activity
- We complete a maths task or English task before taking a mid-morning break
- We complete a maths or English task before lunch
- In school we start the afternoon with some relaxation / meditation but some reading with you or on their own can also be a calming activity
- In the afternoon we complete topic work

We hope you will be able to complete some of your chores/ work when the children are doing theirs.

### Planned school events

Due to the school closure, the following events have been cancelled but we hope to be able to rearrange some of them when the school reopens:

- Year 5/6 residential visit to OCC Woodlands Outdoor Centre
- science week and whole school science trip to Oxford Science Centre.
- special educational visitors
- Easter service
- Whole school trip to Cornbury Park

### What we need you to do

- You will receive two letters: one letter informing you about the online google classroom and a permission letter to enable your child to use the google classroom that we need returned by **Friday**.
- Reception parents only- please return the Tapestry parental consent form by **Friday**.
- Continue to talk to your children about the coronavirus. This can be a worrying time and we need to make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety.
- Please check the school website for information about when the school will reopen but this will be in line with government advice
- If you or your child fall into one of the key worker categories please contact the school office by midday **Friday** so that we can inform you about when the school will be open.
- **Free school meal provision**

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, when the government issues more details. *If you wish to receive this information, please let us know by midday **Friday**.*

### If you have any questions

Please consult the:

- School office, if you have any questions about our response to this update
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools



- If you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).

### **If you have any safeguarding concerns**

If you have any urgent concerns about a child please call 999. For other concerns, please contact the MASH team on 0345 050 7666

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub>

As Designated Safeguarding lead, you are also able to contact me via the office email.

This has been a difficult time and I would like to thank the whole team for all the extra work they have undertaken over the last few weeks in order that we can be as prepared as possible to support your child's learning at home. These have been challenging times, and we have been receiving information at the same time as you. There are still many questions that we do not have the answers to but hopefully there will be further clarity for us which we can share with you soon.

What is important is that over the next few weeks we keep each other safe and support each other in whatever way we can. We have a wonderful school with amazing children, and we will continue to do our best to ensure we provide children with the best education we can in such extreme circumstances.

Thank you for your continued support and patience as we have dealt with this ever-changing situation.

We look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible.

Miss Williams.



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