



20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Due to the recent announcement from the Secretary of State for Education, endorsed by the Prime Minister, that all schools in England must close in our nation's efforts to contain the spread of Coronavirus, we are writing to officially notify you of the closure of Shobnall Primary School.

This is an extremely difficult situation which impacts on us all. This letter is to advise you a little further on this matter, and to explain our next steps. We know that you understand that we are receiving information no sooner than you are at home, and that as the guidance and expectations of us change, so our approach will have to change. In short, please bear with us!

The Prime Minister has advised that children should not be left with older grandparents or older relatives who may be particularly vulnerable to the Coronavirus.

Limited continued provision for identified pupils in school:

Vulnerable children and children of critical workers will continue to be able to come into school as normal. Examples of these key workers include NHS staff, police and delivery drivers who need to be able to go to work. Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with educational health and care plans (EHCPs). The list of critical workers is included in the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Despite the fact that the guidance states, 'Children with at least one parent or carer who are identified as critical workers by the government can send their children to school if required', we must stress that this is an "offer". There is no compulsion for the parents of vulnerable children or parents who are critical workers to send their children into school. The government has closed schools to restrict movement and reduce contagion. They estimated that no more than 10% of children should be in school by eligibility of being classed as vulnerable or the children of critical workers.

This offer is a 'last resort' should other child care arrangements not be possible and our offer will primarily be to accommodate children safely to undertake the same remote learning as their peers who are at home. This is so that when we return, we can expect the same content covered and skills development from all our children. In that context, this cannot be seen as a "summer school" or "kids club".

We need to identify which children will still be in school from Monday in order to plan effective staffing and planning for the education of this group of children. We are using a skeletal staff, as we have to exercise the same advice for social distancing as other businesses and institutions. We will allow children coming into school to wear their own clothes if they choose but, children in school will be expected to undertake the activities provided for those who will be learning from home, but accommodated and supported by my colleagues in school.

You will appreciate that catering arrangements are still to be confirmed. Choices will inevitably be limited, and children are welcome to bring packed lunches with them. Please be advised that provision will be made for children eligible for free school meals.

If a child still attending school develops symptoms of the virus, or members of their household do, you must let us know immediately and they must self-isolate away from school for fourteen days as required.

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"Happy children, inspired learners"

Shobnall Primary School, Shobnall Road,
Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, UK, DE14 2BB
Telephone: 01283 247410 Email: office@shobnall.staffs.sch.uk





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

If your child has an EHCP or a social worker, we are *not* assuming that they will be in school, so please let us know whether they will be attending or not.

Please email office@shobnall.staffs.sch.uk or telephone 01283 247410 if this is a service you will require, stating your child/ren's name / reason for attendance / critical workers and the role held together with your employer's name and contact details. If in receipt of an EHCP, please inform us and if your child has a social worker, please tell us the name of the social worker. We would be exceptionally grateful if this information could be received by the end of the school day today. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

This provision may change in the forthcoming days and weeks as the situation changes. Such changes may include different staffing and even potentially a different, but nearby, school. Again, please bear with us.

Provision for our pupils not in school:

Our staff have been working hard behind the scenes to devise a learning plan to ensure that your child still has the opportunity to continue their studies remotely. In order to ensure staff can 'polish and check them' we will send home the resources and information you need on today but the emails with all of the plans and additional resources will come out on Monday morning. A separate letter has been written with further instructions for home learning.

As soon as we have an official date to re-open, we will communicate this with you via email, text message and through the school website.

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

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Adams".

Mr D. Adams
Head Teacher



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National Children's Bureau

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