

## Bulphan Church of England Academy

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Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following from the government we are sending this further information as promised. This information is based on what we know at the present time and the various discussions and meetings that have taken place within school and further afield. This letter is quite long because I want to answer all the questions that parents and carers may have and I want to share as much information as I can – this approach will, I hope, remove as much worry and speculation as possible.

### **Is school open?**

Yes, school remains open. We have not received any direction to close. The Prime Minister and the LA have said clearly that they want schools to remain open.

### **How can I best help my family, the school and our community?**

Please do this by following good personal and household hygiene practices and the guidance from the NHS and the government which we have previously sent.

### **Will the school contact parents/carers if it has concerns about the health of their child?**

Yes, we will contact parents/carers if we have concerns about the health of their child. We will send children home if we think they have met the criteria for self-isolation. We will do this because we will apply the guidance from the NHS and Public Health England (PHE) and because it is part of our work to care for all our children.

If parents and carers contact the school before a school day has begun and ask the school to make a decision if a child should come into school or not then it places school staff in an impossible position. School staff can not see the child and their symptoms. All school staff can do is talk through the guidance from the NHS and Government.

### **Will children who have to isolate have home learning set for them?**

As directed by the local authority at the present time teachers and learning support staff are focusing their time and energy on teaching children who are in school. Unfortunately, they do not have the capacity to set meaningful home learning for each individual child.

If your child / children are currently self – isolating they can complete the following activities-

- Daily Times Tables Rockstars
- Daily Bug Club
- Keep a diary, write a story, write a news article
- Practice spellings

Please also visit the following webpages for additional education resources –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

*'God's word is a lamp to guide our feet and a light for our path'*  
*Inspired by Psalm 119:105*

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/> (enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS and you will get free access to learning resources)

### **How will school cover classes in the event of staff absences?**

The absences of staff are, to some extent, lessened by having fewer children in school than usual. We will approach planning for class based staff absences in the way outlined below:

1. Internal cover
2. Internal cover which makes use of mixing groups and / or classes
3. External cover
4. Close that class

### **Are after school clubs operating as normal?**

Yes, after school clubs are operating as normal this week however, **next week clubs will NOT go ahead.**

### **What events have been cancelled?**

All activities involving parents coming in to school until Easter, like many other schools, we have cancelled. This sadly includes our **Easter Church Service** and **Easter Competition.** We have also cancelled **Parent Teacher Meetings.**

**Middle school swimming** has been cancelled until further notice. We will keep you updated.

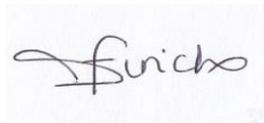
### **When will further information be shared with parents and carers?**

We will share as much as we can with parents and carers and we will do this as quickly as possible – please keep an eye out for emails from us.

We will continue to deal with this fast moving situation by putting the health and well-being of our children, their families and our staff team at the centre of all we do.

All through yesterday and this morning we received supportive comments and responses by parents and carers. We are incredibly thankful for the support of parents and carers during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Finch  
Headteacher

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