Shellingford CE (A) Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Judith Terrell



"Inspiring hearts and minds"

20th March 2020

National Closure of Schools

Dear Parents,

It is with great sadness that we will be closed to the majority of children from 3.15pm today. From Monday 23rd March, we will be working on a skeleton staff who remain well and have not needed to self-isolate, in order to provide schooling for children from the following groups:

- Those with Education Health and Care Plans awarded by Oxfordshire County Council.
- Those children whose families are being supported by a social worker
- Those children whose parents are 'Key/ Essential workers' from one of the following groups of the workforce
 - Health and Social Care staff
 - Education and Childcare staff
 - Key public services
 - Local and national Government
 - Food and other necessary goods
 - Public Safety and National Security
 - Transport
 - Utilities, communication and financial services

You can find more information on the jobs which fall into these groups here.

If you believe that your work falls into one of these categories and that your child should therefore be considered for a school place from Monday, we need you to complete the attached '<u>Key</u> <u>Worker Information</u>' form and return it to the School Office by <u>4.00pm today</u> - Friday 20th March 2020 in order for us to plan provision for the children affected.

Please do not return this form if you do NOT fall into one of the pre-defined categories above.

Please think carefully about requesting a place in school. The Government have asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend and have asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, to minimise further spread of the virus.

Therefore, if more than one adult lives in your house and they are not classed as a key worker, your child/ren will be expected to stay at home with them and not attend school. It remains the case that no child should attend school, regardless of falling into one of these groups, if they or any member of their household has developed either a new, continuous cough AND/OR a high temperature – above 37.8 degrees).

Schools will be providing childcare, and not teaching the National Curriculum during this time. We will be providing regular, home learning resources for you to complete with your child/ren and this will be communicated in due course. There will be no after school clubs from Monday 23rd March 2020 until further notice.

We will also inform parents of the situation regarding the provision of school meals in due course.

Whilst this is a challenging situation, we will continue to communicate regularly with parents via email and our school website during this period. This <u>link</u> may be of further help for parents with information about the national school closure.

The safety of your child, your family, and our school staff and their families are paramount at this time. Please consider your social responsibility to reduce the spread of this disease.

We will keep you and your families in our prayers, and likewise hope you will do the same for us at this incredibly challenging time for us all. Please continue to be models of kindness, respect and care for our children and community.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Very best wishes,

Judith R Terrell