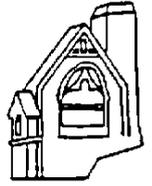




LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher - Mrs Sally-Anne Barnard-Taylor

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5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

SCHOOL CLOSURE

Following on from my letter to you last night, I can confirm that as we are entering a national lockdown, school will remain closed to the majority of pupils until after half-term. All parents should keep their children safe at home so that the spread of Coronavirus is minimised. The **only exceptions** to this are if your child falls into the following categories:

- those **pupils who have a parent who is a critical worker** - see list on attached form
- **vulnerable pupils** including those who have an Educational Health and Support Plan (EHCP usually requiring one-to-one support in class) or have access to a Social Worker (Looked After Children or Children in Need)

If your child falls into either of the categories and you wish them to attend school, you are required to complete the attached form with details of your employment and return it to school **by 12 noon today**, if possible, so that we can organise staffing.

Children who remain at home must engage in remote learning. The guidance states that primary school children should have a minimum of three hours' work per day. Teaching staff are currently organising this. This will be provided primarily through TEAMS and will include some live input from staff. We ask that you bear with us as we get everything planned - staff will be teaching pupils in school and also managing remote learning and all that it entails. We will all do our very best whilst also supporting you as much as we can, as we realise that this situation places parents under pressure once again. Children have had so much disruption recently due to the impact of Coronavirus and together parents and staff need to ensure that children remain engaged and complete all work provided.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to a free school meal this will continue - Mrs Clarke (School Office Manager) will contact you with details. If there are any other families who require a packed lunch (at no cost) for



their children, please contact the School Office - we want to continue helping those families who are in need of additional support at this time.

Other important information

We care about our all of our pupils and particularly at unsettling times for them such as now. If you have any concerns about the safety of **any** children, please contact me (Mrs Barnard-Taylor, Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead or Mrs Bayes, Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) - in the first instance by emailing the School Office stating '**Safeguarding Concern**' and we shall respond to you.

With pupils spending such an increased amount of time at home, and potentially using online programs for extended periods, we ask that you continue to monitor the content of the programs they are using, and also of chat groups they may be part of, in order to keep them safe.

Please remember if you or your child starts to feel unwell with any of the symptoms of coronavirus, and you want more information, please use NHS 111 online.

Finally, thank you for your continued support and understanding - we really do appreciate the implications the school closure has for you. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Best wishes to you all

S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

