



Harwell Community Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from my last update, I'm 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 specific requirements.

We are still waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means. Later today (depending on when the guidance comes), we will be sending you all a link to a google form enabling you to provide us with the information if you think your child may fall into one of these categories. We'll be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this specifically applies to. We may be able to offer an extended school day and operate The Barn if there is a need to do so for key workers.

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

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is as soon as we can.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

Teachers will set work for their class online, including the use of google classroom.

Details will be sent to you by email each Friday for the following week (just as we do now with your weekly calendar briefing).

Pupils will be able to communicate with their class teacher via google classroom but parents will need to communicate with the school in the normal way via the school office email. **To reiterate - please do not use your child's google classroom to try to communicate with teachers.**

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, if we are able to do so with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

What we won't be able to go ahead with

- School trips
- After-school activity clubs
- Events
- Internal assessments or National Tests, including SATs, Phonics screening etc.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

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

We very much appreciate all your emails and verbal comments of support.

Warm regards

Bryn Gibson