

19th March, 2020

PLANS FOR SCHOOL CLOSURE on FRIDAY: PLEASE READ FULLY

Dear Parents/Carers,

The time has come, following Government advice, for the school to partially close in order to attempt to contain the spread of the Covid-19 virus. This has obviously been a decision of much controversy with everyone having different views on the matter however, as a school, we have to follow the Government's requests on this.

We fully realise this is a difficult and stressful time for all; both in regards to concerns for people's health and around the impact school closures will have on your individual circumstances, in particular for those parents who are expected to continue to be working outside of your homes. Attached to this letter is a sheet detailing more information for our children that maybe classed as vulnerable and for parents who are 'key workers'; please complete and return this sheet **tomorrow (Friday)** if this applies to you.

Home Learning

As a school, we have been preparing for this eventuality and have prepared some resources to support your children with their 'home learning' which will need to take place as a result of these closures. All children have been issued with an exercise book, pencil and reading books today to help with this process. Alongside this letter, you will also have received some additional guidance from your class teachers today about 'home learning'.

The main form of communication around this is through our school website: <https://www.northbeckton.newham.sch.uk/> Please follow the link to '**Our Learning**' and '**Learning at Home**'. Within this area, you will find Year Group specific resources which the pupils can use to support their home learning, along with some links within the 'General Learning Area'. This has been shared with all pupils today so they are aware of where to find their home learning resources. The resources in there will be enough to see the pupils up until the Easter holiday and if the school was to remain closed for longer than this, these resources will be updated after the holidays.

Alongside this, we have some paper copies of resources and worksheets available if access online is limited or if you have a number of children in school in different year groups.

Additional Support for Families

We fully realise that alongside providing learning resources, the school does offer a wider network of support for many of our families. It is essential that we continue to offer this to all during this closure and that you are still able to contact us in order for us to assist with any difficulties you may be facing.

As such, the following procedures will be in place whilst the school is closed:

- Please feel free to email any concerns through to our info@northbeckton.newham.sch.uk email address. This will be being monitored regularly and a senior member of staff will respond in a timely fashion. If you do not want to specify your concerns in an email, and would prefer a call-back, please explain this and myself, Mrs Ojo or Mrs Kettory will telephone you.
- A Senior Leader will continue to be in school between 9am – 4pm and will be answering the telephone. As such, if you would like to speak to us, please call on 0207 4733344
- We will continue to update our website and send messages out to parents via the StudyBugs App. This is so you are being kept up-to-date with information, as and when it comes through to schools from the Department of Education and Public Health England. If you haven't yet downloaded the Studybugs App please do so as a matter of urgency.

It is ESSENTIAL that we have up-to-date telephone numbers for you if this means of communication is to work.

- As a Senior Leadership Team, it might be the case that we telephone you or call around to your house to check that everything is ok with yourselves and your children. Please do not be alarmed by this measure as it is simply safeguarding guidance which we are being asked to follow to ensure the safety of all of our children.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this document and please be assured that we are doing everything we can to minimise any disruptions to your pupils' learning at this difficult time.

School closures are not a decision we have taken lightly and have been taken in line with the Government guidance.

Regards,

Ms Helm
Head Teacher: North Beckton

<https://studybugs.com/>
PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS ONTO
YOUR PHONES.
THIS IS HOW WE ARE
COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS.

Studybugs 

INFORMATION REGARDING OUR PARTIAL OPENING TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND KEY WORKERS

The Government has requested that schools remain partially open to support some families and children during this time. Obviously the idea, across the country, is that as many people as possible stay at home in order to reduce the spread of the virus. However we are aware that this is not an option for all families and that some children and families will continue to need some extra support during this time.

As such, as a school, we will continue to be open to certain children if they fall into any of the categories below. The 'school day' will run from 8.30 – 3.30pm, with all children needing to be in school by 9.15am at the latest. We will be providing breakfast and lunches as part of this provision. In order for the school to be able to provide the necessary supervision for these children, it is essential that if you do want your children to access this provision, they do this EVERY DAY (unless ill) and this is NOT an 'as and when' option.

If you feel your children/your family fall into any of the categories below and would like them to continue coming into school over the next two weeks, please could you complete this form and return it your class teacher by Friday in order that the necessary arrangements can be made. This provision will then commence on Monday 23rd March at 8.30am and I am asking that all children are brought to school through the main office.

Regards,
Ms Helm

I would like to take up the option of continuing to bring my child to school for the next two weeks as I believe I fall into one of the following vulnerable/key worker categories:

My child has an EHCP or the school receives extra funding to support their SEN needs

My child/family has a named social worker (either through Newham or another local authority); this includes families who are known to the No Recourse To Public Funds Team

As parents/carers, our work is within the 'key worker' category and we need to continue to go to work during this time.

Please specify what you job/occupation is: _____

Child/children's name: _____

Class/es: _____

Parent signature: _____