

King Edwin Primary School

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King Edwin Primary School – School Closure

Dear Parents and Carers,

After tonight's national lockdown announcement, you will be aware that schools will now close for all but vulnerable children and those of critical workers. **Our whole school will close and move to this reduced provision as of immediate effect.**

Despite the fact that we all anticipated this course of action, it is still very distressing and frustrating that we have not been given the appropriate time to prepare our home learning provision.

It is not often that I publically share my personal opinion about such matters however, I was only informed on Sunday morning that schools are safe and my staff and children should attend school as normal today. To now have to write to you explaining the school closure, is nothing short of a shambles. I am sure that if I carried out my business in a similar manner as the Headteacher of KEPS, parents would not be particularly pleased. Anyway...I suppose our Prime Minister has a much tougher job and I am sure that it's been a very difficult and challenging time him and his team.

Provision is now in place for the keyworker and vulnerable children starting tomorrow at the usual stated times.

Remote learning will be planned and prepared by the staff throughout the course of Tuesday and teachers will communicate their plans with you by the end of the day. **Online lessons and timetables will commence from Wednesday in full.** Please do bear with us until then and be reassured we will do everything we can to ensure quality provision at such short notice.

There will be a TEAMS meeting for every child tomorrow afternoon. This will allow teachers to set out expectations, boundaries and talk openly about the whole situation with the children. This will be done in an age appropriate way that allows staff and children to ready themselves for the days and weeks ahead. It is felt that this will help lay the foundations for some strong learning experiences.

Foundation 1 and 2 TEAMS meetings will begin at 1.00 PM

Year 1 and 2 TEAMS meetings will begin at 1.30 PM

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 TEAMS meetings will begin at 2.00 PM

I must reiterate that I expect every child to engage in our school or remote learning provision and we will be regularly contacting children that are not attending planned sessions. It is very important that parents do everything they can to support their children to participate in the provision. It is our opinion that most children, especially the older children, can access the remote learning without much adult supervision at home. We have been preparing for such an event now for many months. Most children will know how to access and engage using the technology in place.

Any parent requiring the support in the form of perhaps loaning a device must contact us through helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk. We also have some Vodafone SIM only data cards to support if people do not have broadband facilities (the cards can be installed and used as data hotspots on most devices).

Please do keep an eye on emails as I will be in touch tomorrow regarding our provision with the hope of ironing out any complications that may inevitably arise.



As I mentioned in a letter sent out earlier today, I would like to remind parents about the definition of 'critical worker status'. The full list of Critical Workers is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

It is important that parents understand the principle around supporting 'critical workers'. Parents should carefully consider the use of such provision when alternative childcare is available at home such as another parent that is not a critical worker.

If a parent that feels they fall into the category of being a 'critical worker' they must complete the following form.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=1LeB73X2IEO8IYD9eQf-gp3sTAYn4aNOnKuwc4bSf-ZUQIFIQzBIQ0M1RE0yRE9ETTJPREpNSTJHSi4u>

Supporting evidence will be required in the event that a critical worker place is needed. We will have to send children home if it is felt that the spirit of this particular provision is not adhered to.

I understand that this may cause some distress however, guidance is that people should not leave the home unless they absolutely need to and in our opinion this means that children should not come to school unless absolutely necessary.

At present we are communicating with Limetrees Childcare regarding provision. We should hopefully have answers regarding wraparound care by the end of tomorrow.

Whilst there will inevitably be many parents reading this letter with a degree of concern, frustration and perhaps worry, I must remind everyone that my staff are also in the same boat as this evening they sit waiting for news from their own children's schools and working out how they are going to manage. It really is a difficult time for everyone and I am so sorry for any member of KEPS that finds themselves in such a difficult position as a consequence of tonight's announcement.

Once again, apologies for such a late email. Hopefully our KingEdwinner spirit will 'kick in' once more and we can smash this final lock down period together as a community.

Thank you in advance for your continued support,

Kind regards,
Mr Callaghan-Wetton

