



St Bede's RC Primary School

Howlett Hall Road, Denton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7HS

Telephone: 0191 2743430

Email: admin@stbedes.newcastle.sch.uk Website: www.stbedes.newcastle.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Young

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Keys



Monday 4th December

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will be aware, there has been much discussion in the media over the last few days as to whether it is safe for primary schools to re-open this week. The new Covid variant is spreading rapidly and the Government are under pressure from the various teaching unions to delay the re-opening of schools.

Unions are advising staff to consider the safety of reopening schools for the communities which they serve. Unfortunately, due to the circumstances and reduced staff numbers, we find ourselves in the very difficult position that we are unable to open school for all of our pupils. The health and safety of our children, families, staff and wider community remain our priority.

After consultation with the Governing Body, school will be operating a blended model of learning which will be reviewed initially on the 15th January 2021. We have capacity for some classes to attend as normal whereas other classes will only be open to keyworkers and vulnerable children. I appreciate that this is a very difficult situation for parents and carers and the decision has not been taken lightly.

Remote learning packages will be in place by 12 noon on Wednesday 6th January for those children who cannot attend school. If you require any support with home learning please contact school and we will be happy to support you.

Class	Teaching and Learning Model from Wednesday 6th January
EYFS	Only open to keyworkers / vulnerable children Remote learning to be in place for the rest of the class
Year 1	Open to all pupils
Year 2	Only open to keyworkers / vulnerable children Remote learning to be in place for the rest of the class
Year 3	Open to all pupils
Year 4	Open to all pupils
Year 5	Only open to keyworkers / vulnerable children Remote learning to be in place for the rest of the class
Year 6	Open to all pupils

Parents from EYFS, Y2 and Y5 who require a place for their child in school during this temporary bubble closure must contact me via the school email before the end of today.

Once again, I apologise for the late notice in this information and the difficulties that are being created however we are working in difficult circumstances and are making every effort to keep everyone safe.

Below is the list of Keyworkers as defined by the Government in January:

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition



St Bede's RC Primary School

Howlett Hall Road, Denton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7HS

Telephone: 0191 2743430

Email: admin@stbedes.newcastle.sch.uk Website: www.stbedes.newcastle.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Young

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Keys



- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)

- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

We thank you for your continued support in these challenging times.

Keep safe
Mrs Young