



*"Building together for a better future"*

# St. Chad's C.E. (C) Primary School

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

Following on from my texts this morning, I am now writing to clarify that we have been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday until further notice, and to provide further information..

We would like to reassure parents that the continued education and safety of our pupils is of utmost importance and we have put the following measures in place to support our families in these difficult and uncertain times.

Separate letters have been sent home today to parents who believe themselves to be Key Workers and parents whose children are in receipt of Free School Meals (this does not include universal free meals to all Reception Year 1 and Year 2). If you think you fit into either of these categories and have not received a letter, please do look on our website for the letters and respond accordingly.

Those few parents whose children will be attending school during the closure will receive more information tomorrow about specific arrangements. If you are not in receipt of Free School Meals but are worried about feeding your children during these difficult times- do get in touch and we will see how we can help.

## Learning whilst at home:

Our teachers will be uploading work to our school website ([www.st-chads-newcastle.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-chads-newcastle.staffs.sch.uk)) every day from Monday for parents to access on a daily basis. This will state activities to be completed on that day and an exercise book will be sent home tomorrow for the work to be completed in. If your child is currently off school, you can collect an exercise book tomorrow from school or provide your own. Once on the website, the tasks can be found at <SCHOOL> <CHILDREN> <YEAR>.

We appreciate that many parents do not have access to printers, which is why the work set has been planned so that all pupils can complete it with simply a pencil. Years 2 and 6 have also been provided with SAT's revision guides to complete which will be referred to in the planned activities. If your child is struggling with the tasks for their year group, then please feel free to follow tasks in other year groups- particularly maths and reading.

Many online learning platforms are also providing free school closure learning packs that can be downloaded and printed and they also give great ideas for activities that can be carried out at home. These include:

Twinkl - <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>

Phonics Play - <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Oxford Owl - <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Teachers Pet - <https://tpet.co.uk/>

Top marks - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Read with phonics - <https://www.readwithphonics.com/>

**Families in need:** Schools provide families with a wide range of support and we are aware that school closures may be daunting for our most vulnerable. We will be in regular contact with our families in need and will still be liaising with all of our child services during this period. If you are concerned about your child(ren) or any other child, we have a link on our



school website via the Staffordshire Connects button which will provide you with a list of telephone numbers who may offer guidance and support. We also have close links with our local food bank and their contact number is 07519 159061 if you are in need of that extra help.

If you need to get in touch with school during this closure, then our emails and text service will continue to be monitored throughout the day and on a daily basis and we will be able to reply to any comments, questions or concerns. Please ensure that this service is only used for urgent matters.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with 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.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via our school texting service (07786207779 or email us at [office@st-chads-newcastle.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-chads-newcastle.staffs.sch.uk)

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

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

