

Cottingham Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers,

I'm sure you will be aware through the media that there has been a lot of uncertainty regarding the provision of on-site education in primary, secondary and special schools nationally due to the increased transmissibility of the new strain of Covid-19.

Last evening, the government has stated that it is their expectation that the country enters a new period of national lockdown, which will include the closure of schools for a second time. All learning will move online except for children of key workers and any vulnerable children.

Due to the late hour of informing schools and the public, the school will be closed tomorrow to all pupils except for those children of key workers and vulnerable children who *can not* have childcare provided elsewhere. From Wednesday, full provision for children of key workers and vulnerable children will recommence (please see below). We will be contacting parents today to make enquiries about key worker provision in the same way as the previous lockdown for all pupils. As you will appreciate, the organisation of this provision will take some time. I therefore thank you for your patience.

In light of the above, remote learning will take place with immediate effect, from Wednesday, for children affected by this closure. Teachers will upload learning resources via Parentmail, of which more information and support will follow today.

We will staff appropriately the provision for children of key workers and vulnerable children. This is clearly *not* designed to be a general childcare service but aimed specifically for children of key workers who do not have an adult who lives with them who can care for them during school hours. Parents classed as key workers are those whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and includes those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors including:

- Education and childcare settings
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Processing, distribution and sales of food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Utilities, communication and financial services
- EU transition response

Further information about critical worker and vulnerable children can be found here:

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

This provision must only be used if absolutely necessary. We will need to continue mitigating measures during this provision. If you believe that you meet the criteria for your child to take a place in school, during which they too will access remote learning, please email the school this morning. As I mentioned above, we will also be contacting parents also. If you have not been contacted (Via email/phone) by 12:30 today, then it is our belief that your child will NOT be attending the provision in school. Please feel free to contact the school if you are unsure.

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Please be reminded that the government advice is to work from home. Therefore, if an adult in the family is able to do so then they must provide childcare at home and access the remote learning.

Please be assured that the safety of the whole Cottingham CofE Primary School community is paramount. Thank you for your continued patience and support during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

Ashley Scott (Headteacher)

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