



Gentleshaw Primary Academy

18th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Government Enforced Closure

Public Health England have announced blanket closures of all schools, and further to the letter sent earlier this week, we would like to inform you about how we will communicate with you and what work our teachers have set for the next two weeks leading up to and during the Easter holidays.

What work will be set for my child?

All children will receive a paper based home-learning pack and a bank of activities to complete. In addition, the school website has links to age appropriate learning sites. There will also be an opportunity to touch base with the teachers through the new private Facebook groups that we are setting up for this purpose (see Home Learning letter). You will be sent information for your child's class Facebook via text message by the end of this week. I would like to add that this is a very new way of working for our Gentleshaw team but that all of our staff have fully embraced it and want to give it their best, knowing that it is important for the children. Please be patient with us if there are initial teething problems.

What if I need to contact my teacher/the school?

Whilst we are closed, should you have any questions or queries, please email them to headteacher@gentleshawprimary.academy or deputy@gentleshawprimary.academy. These email addresses will be checked every day. In addition the children will have an opportunity to contact teachers through the Facebook groups and the teacher's email addresses (these will be available on the academy website). However, I would ask that adults check messages that children are sending - as much as teachers will love to hear from the children, this will need to be manageable for them.

How will my school contact me?

All letters will go on the school website and you will receive a text message when one is uploaded for you to look at. In addition, we will continue to use our texting service for brief updates and regularly use Twitter. We will endeavor to keep you informed of every step we take, in line with the government guidelines.

How will school help the community?

We consider ourselves to be at the heart of the community and alongside considering ways of supporting the children through home learning, we place great importance on our part in the community. We have named ourselves as a point of support for families in isolation whilst school has been open and would like to extend this during closure. To access this support (help with collecting prescriptions/shopping etc) please email me on the email above.

If any families find themselves in a situation where they need support for their children or have a safeguarding concern, please contact us or use the Staffordshire Safeguarding, First Response Team on 0800 1313126.

There is no doubt that this is and will continue to be a challenging situation and I would like to thank you all for your support and positivity during this difficult period.

#TeamGentleshaw

Mrs G Parsons

Headteacher