

# Bottisham Community Primary School



Headteacher: Rachael Johnston

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the very recent announcements regarding schools opening for the children of key workers it is quickly becoming apparent that some of the public messages require further clarification. We very much want to help to ensure that our community stays safe, receives the medical attention needed and that all those contributing to sustaining this, who don't have access to any childcare provision are supported with appropriate arrangements for their children. We are under pressure to maintain sufficient staff here at school and need to recognise that this may increase in the coming weeks as the virus spreads.

I would like to share a very helpful statement from one of the Education Unions.

Commenting on government guidance about sectors prioritised for educational provision during the coronavirus crisis, Geoff Barton, General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders, said:

*"We would appeal to parents on this list to follow the first principle of keeping their children at home if it all possible from Monday onwards, and to only send them to school if there is no safe alternative.*

*"The key worker list is extensive and schools will not be able to cope with the number of children who could potentially arrive on Monday morning. It is important that the public understands that this is not business as usual.*

*"Schools will endeavor to do their best to provide continuity of learning for all children whether at home or in school, but the provision in school is likely to be more akin to childcare than a normal timetable.*

*"Schools are working to an incredibly tight timescale to turn round this provision and we would ask everybody to show patience and understanding in this extremely challenging situation".*

We are committed to supporting you all in the best way we can but ask please that you consider carefully whether you need to send your child/ren to school on Monday, or whether there are other possible arrangements that will help to reduce social contact, movement and the possible spread of infection. In this way, we can ensure we can make provision for those who most need it and ensure this continues if further staff are absent.

I am very grateful for your support and understanding with this difficult matter. Please inform the school if there are any changes to your circumstances. We will continue to provide you with further information as the situation develops.

Yours faithfully,

Rachael Johnston, Headteacher

Beechwood Avenue  
Bottisham  
Cambridgeshire  
CB25 9BE  
01223 811235

01223 811235  
office@bottishamprimary.org  
www.bottisham.cambs.sch.uk  
twitter.com/BottishamPri



Beechwood Avenue  
Bottisham  
Cambridgeshire  
CB25 9BE  
01223 811235

01223 811235  
[office@bottishamprimary.org](mailto:office@bottishamprimary.org)  
[www.bottisham.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.bottisham.cambs.sch.uk)  
[twitter.com/BottishamPri](https://twitter.com/BottishamPri)

