



## Barrington Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) School

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*Belonging Believing;  
Together Succeeding*

**Headteacher: Mrs G. Davies**

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for all the lovely messages of support that we have received over the past week and for your understanding and patience as we manage the current difficult and changing situation. These are truly unprecedented and difficult times for everyone.

In accordance with the latest government guidelines, we will be closing as a school at the end of the afternoon on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. For the majority of our children we will be providing education for them to complete at home, under your supervision and we will send details to everyone of how we propose to do this tomorrow.

School will however remain open for children of key workers to enable them to continue with essential work. The decision of which occupations fall into the category of key workers is **not** made by us as a school; we have been sent this list of key workers by the Department of Education;

- NHS staff
- Teachers and school support staff
- Police and community support officers
- Frontline civilian police staff
- Prison officers and staff
- Probation officers and trainee probation officers
- LA officers and LA/ NHS social workers
- Uniformed staff in fire and rescue services
- Armed forces personnel and some civilian MOD personnel
- Highway agency traffic staff
- LA environmental health officers/practitioners
- Care workers
- Food/supermarket drivers and other workers

Please be aware that both parents need to fall into these categories to be eligible for your child to come to school; these measures have been put into place to reduce the numbers of children in school and so slow the spread of the virus. Please be aware that this is the most recent information that we have been sent as a school and government advice may change as the situation changes.

If you fall into one of these categories and have decided that you would like to send your child to school, please could you contact the school office as soon as you are able to, so that we know how many children to expect in school on Monday and are able to make plans accordingly.

When we send out the first home learning packs tomorrow we will send them with every child, regardless of whether you are a key worker or not, so that every child will have home learning resources ready, should home circumstances change.

While we are closed, we are keen to keep contact with our children and their families. This is a new situation for all of us, so if you have any feedback on the home learning resources we are sending please do email me – we are very keen to make them as useful and easy to use as possible. Please do email your child's class teacher directly, if there is a part of the learning that your child is finding challenging or you would like some help with. Also, please do feel free send us in photos of anything your child would like to share we with us. It is important to us that you and your child still feel contacted to school staff.

While we are closed, I will try my hardest to phone every family every week, to try and maintain some human contact with school and to see if there is anything we can support you with.

Please do keep in touch with us as a school – it is the school community and the people in it who make Barrington the special place that it is. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can support you with – or if you have any suggestions as to how we can support each other in the school community.

Take care and stay healthy!

Gill Davies