

School Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils from Monday

Following on from my last update, I'm now writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children after this Friday, until further notice.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs.

We are still waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means. We'll be in touch again as soon as we are sure who this does apply to, with what information we will require from you before we can confirm whether your child can continue to attend school from Monday.

All other children will need to stay at home, so unless we contact you to confirm your child should attend, we ask that you do not send your child(ren) into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we get the go-ahead from government. I am sure you will find out about schools re-opening nationally via the media, but we will also let you know a definite date for our school re-opening by text message and 'latest news' on the school website.

We will be providing a two-part education service from Monday

Around 10% of our pupils will continue to attend school everyday and need to be taught by staff, but we will also be providing education for the other 90% or so of pupils at home. This is obviously a very complicated and unique situation that we will have to learn to manage as we go. Please be patient with us – this is uncharted territory for everyone!

What we'll continue doing for children at home

Your child's learning is of course really important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn while school is closed.

With this letter is a 'Home Learning during school closure' guide, sharing where on the school website to find the work that teachers have planned for children from Early Years to Year 6 to do at home. It also shares some recommended websites your child may find useful and gives some suggestions for how to structure daily routines for home learning. We hope you find it useful.

We have also sent Home Learning Books and some resources with the children who have been in school. We will set up the opportunity for a family member to collect these from school tomorrow, if your child hasn't received these due to not being in school during the last two days.

The children will be expected to record all work done at home in these books. Please encourage them to look after and take pride in them - we will be getting the children to bring them back into school to share the work they have completed at home, once we re-open.

What we won't be able to go ahead with

The government confirmed yesterday that:

“we will not go ahead with assessments or exams, and that we will not be publishing performance tables for this academic year”.

That means that SATs in Year 6 and Year 2, the Year 4 multiplication check, Year 1 Phonics Screen and the Reception Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, all due to take place throughout May and June, will be cancelled this year. I'm sure that teachers will be asked to submit teacher assessments in place of test results, so that your child's ongoing educational needs can be provided for in their new classes from September. Please encourage your child to continue to work through materials (including SATs revision guides, times tables practice etc) set by teachers, for this reason.

Please note: We will not be running Breakfast Club from Monday – all children attending school should report for 8:50am.

If your child usually receives free school meals, we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced. Once again, we are waiting for more details on this.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us, 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 continue to do so via the school office on 0113 3862560 or email info@pudseyboltonroyd.org.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to a document from Leeds School Wellbeing Service that we have attached to the school website in the Latest News section. This has dozens of links to really useful resources for the children and you as families to access online. It's called 'COVID-19: Resources for Parents/Carers' and is well worth a look.

And 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 as soon as we can.

Mr K Buck
Headteacher