



Bicton C of E Primary School and Nursery

Bicton Lane, Bicton, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. SY3 8EH

Telephone: 01743 850212 Email: admin@bicton.shropshire.sch.uk

Website: www.bictonschool.org.uk

Head teacher: Mrs Natalie Johnson BA (Hons)

head@bicton.shropshire.sch.uk

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents,

School closure - Provision of care for the children of key workers

Following the announcement by the Government yesterday, that all UK schools are to close from Friday 20th March 2020 and not open again for the foreseeable future, I am writing to inform you of our plan at this moment in time.

Although at the time of writing, the government has not published any guidance for schools, we believe that **the offer of the provision will be made to families where couples or single parents are key workers.** The list of occupations is to be announced by the Government later today but we assume that it will cover a wide range of services and professions. We know that we are able to make provision at Bicton School for the children of these parents. This means that from Monday 23rd of March, children of key workers, and children in receipt of an EHCP and Social Services involvement, can attend Bicton CE Primary School.

Potential List

The list is expected to include:

- Medical professionals including doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics etc.
- Other health workers - such as employment in a medical/health setting
- Community safety - police force and fire brigade
- Education - teachers, workers in a school or a pre-school setting
- Supermarket workers
- Delivery drivers
- Anyone working in "critical infrastructure"
- Children with Education or Health Care Plans
- Vulnerable children with social worker intervention

The school will be open from 8am until 4.30pm. There will be no charge for the extended hours. We will have a team of staff, who will work on a rota basis during this time.

Children will not need to wear uniform but can if they wish to. Parents can provide their child with a packed lunch or order a hot meal but this needs to be ordered in advance so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

In order to plan our next steps, we need to identify which of our children would qualify for this provision.

If you think your job is listed above, and you can provide us with some evidence of your current role (ID badge, contract, service website that identifies you) we will then be able to plan our provision which will begin on Monday 23rd March 2020.

We are working closely with the other local schools in the Corbet catchment area. Once we have numbers, we may need to work on a rotation of staff and schools, so your child may be cared for in one of the local schools. This will ensure that we have the right ratios of adults, children, first aiders, designated safeguarding leads and so forth.

Important Action

In the first instance, we would like to hear from you as soon as possible if you think your child is eligible for a place. We will be sending out a survey to see which of our parents qualify as a key worker. Once we confirm the list from the government, and you know you will want to take up this offer of child care, email admin@bicton.shropshire.sch.uk or head@bicton.shropshire.sch.uk and include a photo or scan of your proof of occupation.

On Monday 23rd March, these children should attend Bicton School if they are eligible. Any other children who do not fit this criteria must stay at home.

We are drafting a plan while we wait for official guidance from the DFE and our own local authority.

As I discussed with many of you this morning, we do not have all the answers yet as a school but we are doing everything we can to put in place a plan that can support you through these difficult times. I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your support, understanding and patience in these challenging times.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Natalie Johnson
Head teacher