



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware the government may order a shutdown of all schools across the country in the coming days and months, because of COVID-19. In line with this advice, we have begun our preparations. These are only precautionary measures and we are by no means saying we are shutting until either public health or the government say we need to, or it becomes impossible to open due to staff shortages.

We are keen to ensure that children continue learning as best they can during this difficult time, we have been tasked by the government to make sure our children are given work, from school, to complete each day and we have outlined these measures below. Some children and families are already in isolation (as a result of a cough or temperature of one or more family members) and may find some of the online resources useful. However, the daily work tasks will not come online from the teachers until the school is fully closed.

The situation as of today:

If your child or anyone else in the household presents with symptoms (persistent cough or fever) then ALL those living in the house must self-isolate for 14 days (previously 7 days for just the person showing symptoms).

Please do not come in to school to check, if your child needs to stay home, ring and leave a message on our answer phone and we will call you back to discuss it. Remember self-isolation for one person or now a family means all members of the household must stay in the family home away from others. This is to stop the spread of the virus. The whole family needs to be isolated, you must not nip to the shop, go to work or be out in public places.

The government also recommend that everyone else take the following extra precautions for now:

- Avoid all unnecessary travel, gatherings and crowded places, such as pubs, clubs and theatres;
- Work from home if at all possible;



- Avoid unnecessary visits to friends and relatives in care homes
Vulnerable people need to take precautions including anyone over 70, people who are pregnant and people with a long term medical condition.

This situation may change daily and we are only informed as you are on the news each evening. Please keep an eye on what is happening nationally. You will then receive information from me either by text or on our Facebook page if we need to update the situation.

QUICK NOTE: Recently we have been asking parents to download and join the SeeSaw Family APP to enable us to share your children's work and make comments backwards and forwards to the teacher. Many of you have already done this and we are very grateful.

However, the company have informed us that they have (in light of the situation) made a change to the SeeSaw class App (which is the one we use in school). This means families can not only see their children's work from school, but can also upload work to the teacher from home on the original APP (which will be very useful if we do close). This was an issue before as everyone who logged in could see all of the children in the classes work, not just their own child's. They have now fixed this glitch.

This means that families need to delete the family App and upload the SeeSaw Class App, if they wish to use these facilities. Sorry if this seems a little like cross wires, but the company only released this information over the weekend in response to the current situation. Once the school is closed parents will then be able to share work with the teacher. We do ask that parents do not use this to communicate with the teacher about anything other than children's work.

Children's work:

Here is the list of jobs children will need to do daily or weekly. Again remember that the work from the class teacher will only go online once the school closes fully (if it does):

Reading - all children will bring home several books to ensure they have some reading material while they are off school. But all children have access to our online reading collection with their unique username and password (we have sent this out again for all children in the pack accompanying this letter on the reverse of the maths whizz pass). They will need to read every day and record this in the reading record added to the pack sent out to you.

Maths - all children in Year 1 and 2 already have a Maths Whizz pass (we have re-sent them in their pack) this is an online individualised Maths tutor, the children have been using in school already. Reception children have now also been given a pass, although they have never logged on, in school yet, the site is very easy to use.

It is important each child log in as themselves, as activities are set for them individually. Please do not let other children access their account. The work is set electronically according to periodic



assessments they sit. The teacher can also assign tasks etc from home and will be monitoring children's use. They need to do at least 45minutes a day.

Nursery children can access the numeracy activities on the Cbeebies website, they will need to do one a day.

All teachers will set a learning task, every day for English and Topic via our secure Facebook page (only if and when we are closed fully).

The website 'Twinkl' are also offering free access to all their resources for all teachers and parents - this is a site used widely in schools and has some great resources for all year groups.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>

We will send home all the login details for these apps/websites with your child, alongside a book or paper to do the work in/on. We have included a separate reading record for you to record your reading activities in whilst the school is closed (please do not record these reads in the normal reading record as we would like to monitor what they have done while at home).

Communication with parents will be via our closed Facebook page and text message. We will share any information we receive, with everybody as soon as we can. Please follow the advice of official organisations such as the DfE and Public Health England in the meantime. If you are not a member of our facebook page please join in ASAP. We do ask that you answer the questions when joining as we always check you are a parent before accepting.

If you have any concerns and/or issues whilst the school is closed, and would like some advice, help or support, please add a post to the school secure facebook page, asking me to contact you, and I will reply to you privately in messenger (it will not be posted for everyone to see!). Please do not send me private message, I can see all the post before they go on facebook - you could mark it confidential if you do not want it posting. Or you could choose to email me at

headteacher@bolsover-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child or family, while we are closed, please contact

Derbyshire County Council Safeguarding team at Starting point on 01629 533190

Yours sincerely



Miss F Cowan

