

Beckley C.E. Primary School
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Headteacher – Mr Simon Thurston



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17 March 2020

Dear Parents,

Re: School Update – COVID-19

I am writing this letter to you in response to the latest government update this afternoon which stated that it is:

'...time for everyone to stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel'.

As a result, we have decided to **cancel all extra events** planned for the remainder of this term, including parents evenings today and tomorrow; after school clubs; the BSA Film Night and the Easter Fair. Our Easter Service will still go ahead, but will take place at school and will be for the children only. At present, the government is advising that **schools remain open.**

If your child, or anyone in your household has any of the following symptoms then they, **and all of their family**, should self-isolate at home for 14 days:

- A high temperature, of 38°C or above
- and /or a new continuous dry cough

Children who become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough during the school day will be sent home. **ALL parents must ensure that they are contactable and school have the correct emergency contact details.**

Parent Consultations: We have an obligation to update parents on their children's progress so teachers will send out short written reports instead. These will be available to parents over the next week either by hand or e-mail, depending on circumstances. We will only close if we are advised to do so. However, **in the event of school closure**, we will inform you as soon as possible via email or text message. If you have not already done so, remember that you can also register with the East Sussex website emergency closure service. Registering here will mean you receive email alerts for any emergency school closure – for example, school closure due to extreme weather.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures/>

Home Learning: In the event of the school closing, children will still be able to access learning activities in the following ways:

- Updated homework grids providing extra activities
- Knowledge organisers with quizzes
- Website links for learning
- Tasks prepared on Purple Mash
- Practice papers for Y6
- Classroom webpages will be updated with extra activities

Alongside this, parents may wish to help children learn through mini research projects based on the current learning journeys.

Please bear with us all as we do our best to provide age-appropriate learning in rather unusual circumstances whilst also remembering that staff have families that they may need to care for too.

Please talk to your child about COVID 19 in a child-friendly way in order to ease anxieties and worries. There are many resources out there, including the BBC Newsround website.

These are uncertain times which no one could foresee and it is important, as always, that we work together for the good of our school community. Please do come and see me if you have any questions.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Thurston". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Simon Thurston
Headteacher