



Gladstone Road Primary School

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Head teacher: Mr. G. Johnson

"Learning to Succeed"

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Good morning from Gladstone Road Primary!

So, we were all waiting with bated breath for the announcement from the Government about school closures and now we know that **schools in the UK will close their doors on Friday to all except for vulnerable pupils or children of key workers**. Of course, this message raises more questions than answers for all of us, which is why I am writing to you now.

Over the coming days and weeks, I anticipate that Headteachers will receive instructions, guidance and advice of the future plan. As and when this happens, I will be in touch with you so you know what is happening and then we can continue to work together like we always do. In the meantime, this is the immediate plan for Gladstone Road Primary School:

Priority 1 – Teaching & Learning

Yesterday, we deployed an 'Online Teaching Action Team' made up of leaders and teaching staff from EYFS to Year 6. Their job is to ensure that by the end of the week learning tasks are uploaded to our website and the staff / children / parents are trained in how to access them. This will evolve over the coming weeks and we'll continue to work on it daily. We will also look at ways that parents/carers can ask teachers questions directly etc. For children who do not have access to the internet at home, we are devising a system for them today and will be in touch.

Priority 2 – School next week

Of course, the welfare and education of our children are an absolute priority for me but the welfare of the staff is just as important. Today we will be working with the staff to devise a plan of what school will look like next week, how it can safely operate and to who? This will consider staff wellbeing, health conditions and personal child care commitments. What I will say, but you will already know, we have a first class, committed team who are dedicated to our school's success. We will continue to work together over this turbulent time and communicate clearly with you as parents/carers.

Priority 3 – School moving forward

As the advice/guidance rolls in and the picture changes in terms of staffing, catering, and the service we can offer, I will communicate clearly with you. We fully intend to keep school open in some form for those who need it the most and will be working hard to formulate a robust plan next week, which will include the viability of us offering a form of holiday club over the Easter break for priority children and families, including key workers children. Please bear with us and stay tuned for further information.

We recognise our key role as part of the community and are determined to live up to this. Thank you as ever for your patience and support – we need it now more than ever!

Yours faithfully,

Mr Garry Johnson
Head Teacher

