



Gladstone Road Primary School

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Head teacher: Mr. G. Johnson

"Learning to Succeed"

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20th March 2020

Good afternoon,

I just wanted to bring our week to a close with a letter summarising the plan for next week and addressing concerns that have arisen today.

From the requests logged by parents, we are expecting **approximately 200 children** to arrive in school on Monday. Obviously, this is going to be a challenge as we have limited staff, but more importantly we are not going to be able to abide by the advice of social distancing. The safety and welfare of the staff and children are a huge worry for us, so we are going to need to review the offer we are providing each day based on numbers.

Large Groups of people are prone to spreading the virus!

We feel that some parents are not considering the actual reasoning behind school closure, which is to contain the virus. We feel that **some families are able to safely keep their children at home**, but have logged that due to somebody in the household being a 'critical worker', the children need to be in school. This is increasing our pupil numbers unnecessarily and I would urge these families to reconsider. We appreciate that the majority of children logged this morning meet the criteria and we look forward to seeing them on Monday morning.

School = Childcare, not Education

Many parents were asking if the school is providing education from Monday. The school is operating to provide child care for critical workers. We have limited staff who will be working on a rota and children will be roughly grouped per age, they will not be in their usual classes. We will not be teaching them as this is not manageable, we will simply be providing activities to keep them occupied.

Uniform

Children that are coming to school will not be required to wear uniform. They should wear clothes that are suitable for indoor, outdoor and sports activities e.g. a tracksuit.

School Lunches

At the moment for pupils attending school, we will be providing a school lunch as normal, but this could change based on food supplies and our catering staff being able to come into school. We will keep you informed regarding this situation. We are awaiting further guidance from the DfE regarding the provision for children not attending school.

Thank you again for all of your support and well wishes. We hope that you have been able to gain access to our online learning and we are looking forward to supporting you with this.

Very best wishes,

Mr Garry Johnson
Head Teacher

