

Dear Parents/Carers,

From today, due to the current sharp rise in cases of Corona virus, Boasley Cross and Lydford Primaries are closed until at least the end of half term in February 2021, **except for children of critical workers or vulnerable children.**

Critical workers

If you or your partner is a critical worker, or if your child is classed as vulnerable, then you are eligible for a place. However, due to the limited number of classroom spaces available, and 2m social distancing measures to keep children apart as much as possible, **the total number of children that Boasley Cross Primary can accommodate is 16 and Lydford can accommodate 9 pupils.** If the number of eligible children exceeds the capacity, provision will be organised in one of our Federation schools with spaces available.

Please follow this link to access the most up-to-date Government guidance regarding vulnerable children and families eligible as critical workers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Key summary of provision

- Children cannot attend if they or anyone in their household are displaying symptoms.
- There will be limited contact between children and one or two adults.
- We will be adapting the classroom environment to facilitate social distancing and cleaning protocol
- We will promote good hygiene such as hand washing, sanitising and use of tissues etc.
- We will carry out regular and thorough cleaning of all occupied areas and equipment.
- We will immediately isolate anyone displaying symptoms and send them home.

For all other pupils, our school is closed until at least the end of the February half-term. High-quality remote learning will be provided to make sure they continue to receive a consistent education. We know that this places pressure on you at a difficult time but your support in helping your child engage with the remote learning as much as possible is so important and we are very grateful for it. Remote learning will continue to be provided through Class Dojo – a plan for the rest of this week will be posted on Wednesday with planning for next week posted on Friday.

In-school provision:

Your child will be in a small group of children with an adult. Your child's group may be led by a teacher or a teaching assistant from their school (if possible).

- If your child's school has exceeded the safe capacity following 2m social distancing, they will be offered a place at one of our Federation schools with available spaces
- Your child's group will be allocated a specific room within the school building.

- As far as possible, your child will remain in their allocated room for the entire day, apart from access to outside breaks and outside learning.
- There will be frequent hand washing as well as strict social distancing at all times.

As previously stated above, both Boasley Cross and Lydford schools can only safely accommodate a small number of children following 2m social distancing guidance. We may look to accommodating critical worker pupils in another federation school if numbers rise.

In addition, there have been a few additions to the behavior policy in order to keep everyone safe:

Behaviour and Safety

All in school must follow any altered routines for arrival or departure following school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising.

All in school should follow instructions on who children can socialise with at school moving around the school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing) expectations about sneezing, coughing, tissues, and disposal ('catch it, bin it, kill it') and avoiding touching the mouth, nose, and eyes with hands.

All in school should tell a member of staff as soon as possible if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus.

All in school to follow rules about not sharing any equipment or other items including drinking bottles

All in school should follow amended expectations and rules about breaks or play times, including where children may or may not play, use of toilets, clear rules about coughing or spitting at or towards any other person

There should be clear rules for children at home about conduct in relation to remote education.

The school's rewards and sanction system will be adapted to focus on any additional rules.

Possible additional reasonable adjustments will be identified and included for children with more challenging behaviour.

What to wear and bring

Please ensure that your child has the following:

- A packed lunch
- A drinks bottle

We are asking children to wear school uniform. Guidance on infection control suggests clothes should be washed daily to kill any virus they may have come into contact with. Also, the windows and doors will be open

and fresh air flushed frequently through the classrooms, so please ensure that the children have suitably warm clothing.

Teachers and group leaders

Each group will have an adult assigned to them. It is possible that a group will be supervised by a teaching assistant. Those staff who are working from home will continue to provide support for home learning whilst also supporting those colleagues working in school with planning and feedback.

Staff will routinely wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

Illness and first aid

If a child becomes ill (non-virus symptoms) normal procedures will apply. The staff will make a judgement about their fitness to be in school and contact parents as needed. When caring for someone who is ill or administering first aid, staff may wear PPE such as a face mask, gloves and an apron.

If a child, or adult, displays virus symptoms (as described by current guidance) they will be isolated in a quarantine room. Parents/carers will be contacted immediately to collect their child and will be encouraged to have them tested for Covid-19. Children who display symptoms should seek a test and isolate accordingly.

Cleaning and health and safety

We have considered all aspects of the health and safety of our children very closely and update risk assessments regularly. All staff are very aware of the procedures in place whilst parents and children will be informed as necessary. All spaces used by groups will be cleaned twice a day to minimise potential virus spread.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation. Our main concern is keeping staff, pupils and the community and the message is 'STAY AT HOME' if at all possible.

Please continue to take care and to stay safe. Please contact your child's school on their admin email or phone in for more details.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Deirdre Petersen

Head of School