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Headteacher: Brett Stevenson

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents

I am sure by now you will have seen the news about schools 'closing' on Friday. This is only partly true.

The government has instructed schools to stay open for certain *vulnerable children* and children whose parents are *key workers*. A full list of workers categories is to be published by the Cabinet Office today. As soon as I receive this list I will share it with you.

However, I understand that:

**Vulnerable children** are

- children who have a social worker working with them and their family
- are in possession of an EHCP – an Education and Health Care Plan

**Key Workers**

Currently the guidance categorises key workers as:

- NHS/Health Workers
- People who work for the emergency services
- Supermarket delivery drivers
- Workers looking after the vulnerable and the elderly

As explained above this list is likely to change. Please do not contact me until I have published the list.

If a member of the family is **not** a key worker, it is my understanding that they will be responsible for looking after your child. It is also my understanding, and I consider it common sense, that if a key worker works shifts or part time, that they then collect their child as soon as they have finished work.

I understand that this will be difficult but we have to limit the number of children and staff in school as much as possible to supervise their children. **Therefore, all other children will need to stay at home. The government is very clear on this. As are we**

Although we started to collect information yesterday, we still need you to contact us if you fall into these categories and are unable to supervise your child/ren at home.

If a parent is self-isolating at home because they are in a vulnerable group, I feel it is best that the child remains at home as there is a higher risk of them becoming infected at school and transferring it to the home environment.

Currently it is my understanding that if one parent is a key worker, the other parent is expected to stay at home with their children. I can only reiterate that schools are being closed partially for a specific and important reason, and that the fewer people we have in school the better. Staff too are key workers and possibly then have a higher risk I have a duty to safeguard staff as well as children.

At the end of this letter there will be a simple form which I would like to be emailed back to the following address by 9.00 am tomorrow morning.

[federation.head@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:federation.head@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk)

**This applies for Pillowell children as well.**

In all likelihood Blakeney School will be partially open to cater for the children who I have described above. Pillowell will be closed. The reason for Blakeney being the school open is because of anticipated demand, and the school needs to be and managed safely on a skeletal staff.

Tomorrow I will have more information for you. However, it is likely that

- The school will be open from 8.00 am until 4.30 pm
- The school will be open from Monday to Friday
- There will be no breakfast or after school club
- Children will not need to wear uniform
- The activities will not necessarily be education based
- There will be opportunities for the children to complete their school work set by the teachers
- There will be no Easter holidays as such and the arrangements above will apply for those two weeks

Please recognise the enormous strain that this having upon our schools as we in turn recognise the strain it has on our families. I would like to thank all of you for your encouragement and support and in turn publicly thank my staff.

Yours sincerely,



Brett Stevenson  
Headteacher



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Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Year Group \_\_\_\_\_

Which Key worker category do you fit into \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Contact Number of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Which sessions do you need? Please tick

Day	Morning - 8.00 am - 1.00 pm	Afternoon - 1.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		