



Beverley St Nicholas C P School

Holme Church Lane

Beverley

HU17 0QP

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Head teacher – Mrs D E Pollard

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20th March 2020

School Closure Provision

Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to inform you of the current situation, following guidance received from the Department of Education and the Local Authority.

The government documentation states that:

*“As a country, we all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of COVID-19 is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children **who absolutely need to attend.**”*

*“Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response **and** cannot be safely cared for at home.”*

At Beverley St Nicholas, we have a committed but small staff, several of whom are already isolating, or in a vulnerable category and thus currently confined to working from home. This will seriously compromise our ability to provide all but the most essential child care. It is important that all parents are aware of the reality of our situation.

The government guidance states that if it is at all possible for children to be at home then they should be to enable social distancing principles. They identify key workers who are unable to keep their children safe at home to request child care from the school.

Key workers include NHS staff, police, farmers, teachers and food retail workers, who need to be able to go out to work. The full list is to be found here:

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





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Government guidance is that if workers think they fall within the critical categories above they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

If you meet this criteria, please inform the school and we can discuss your situation and provision needs.

We are asking all parents to support the school during this unprecedented time and request that you do not send students into school if the criteria are not met. As yet we are uncertain as to how this will be staffed, therefore it is really important for us to have a clear idea of numbers. Primarily we will be providing a child care service and there will be no formal teaching; our staff will be working remotely to provide resources etc., for our wider body of students.

Vulnerable children can also access this provision. This includes children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including children in need and child protection plans, looked after children, young carers, disabled and those with an EHCP (school will have contacted parents if the pupil falls in one of the above categories and discussed provision access).

Thank you for your continued support.

Your sincerely

L.Pollard

