



Midsomer Norton Primary School

'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership'

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Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience as we have put arrangements into place for the closure of school after the sudden government announcement yesterday. Although we now have prior experience to call upon, there was very little warning of this abrupt change. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who have been working behind the scenes to get everything ready today!

Midsomer Norton Primary School remains open for children of critical workers and those considered vulnerable. We have already contacted those parents/carers who have children that fall into these categories to determine how many pupils will be in school. For the vast majority of children, learning will now take place at home via remote access.

Please note the following arrangements:

Home Learning

Your child's teaching team will be in touch to ensure that your child (with adult support where necessary) is able to log on to Google Classroom. Because of the abrupt change it is likely that most of tomorrow will be spent addressing any issues before teaching is able to commence. Each day will include daily live sessions with staff. Please see the emails sent by your child's teaching team for further information.

Work packs: Staff have prepared work packs for each child who will be learning at home, including books to write in and writing materials. We would ask parents/ carers to collect these from the school office from **tomorrow (Wednesday 6th January), 9:00am onwards.**

Free School Meals:

Free School Meal boxes will be provided until the Government voucher scheme is rolled out nationally. Food boxes can be collected from your child's school from Thursday onwards. We will send out more information when available.

Children Attending School

Opening hours: The school will be open our traditional school hours, 8:35 -3:15pm, for all school age children (Nursery children 8:30-3:30pm). Please ensure that your child is appropriately supervised and remains by your side whilst waiting for the doors to open.

Entrances/ Gates: The gates on North Road and next to Sunbeams nursery will remain locked. The main gate and bottom gate next to the high street will be open at the beginning and end of each day.

Nursery and Reception children should be dropped off/ collected from their usual doors.

Year 1 and Year 2 children should be dropped off/ collected via the door to Venus Class in the lower playground.

Year 3 – Year 6 children should be dropped off/ collected via the top playground.

Please collect younger children first before making your way around to collect older siblings.

Wrap around care: We are able to offer limited wrap around care. 7:45 – 5:00pm for children of key workers.

Lunch: Children in school who are entitled to free school meals will have these provided. Children of critical workers who are not entitled to a free school meal, should bring a packed lunch.



Attendance: Parents/carers must inform the office if their child will not be in school that day or if they need to change the days that their child will be attending. The school will follow normal absence procedures if a child is unexpectedly absent.

Uniform: Children should continue to wear school uniform.

PE: Children should come to school in PE kit on PE days. These days will be confirmed by your child's teaching team in due course.

Emergency contacts: Please ensure that if there have been any changes to your emergency contact details the school has been informed. .

Communications

The office will be staffed by a single school employee 8:00-3:30. Where possible please contact the office by email rather than by phone.

Social distancing

We must also look after the health of school staff by continuing to limit contact between individuals as much as possible.

Thank you for your support with this.

We wish all of our families all the best during these challenging times.

Best regards,

Alun Randell
Head Teacher