

Dolton Church of England Primary School

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'Together we nurture, love and learn whilst inspiring changemakers.'

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear parents/ carers,

As you will have heard the government closed all schools in England last night in their 8pm announcement. The government has said we can remain open to 'vulnerable' and the children of critical workers. This is a really important service that will make life better for the children who qualify and easier for families. The questionnaire that was sent out this morning to determine these groups of children is now closed as we are full and these families will receive an additional letter later today confirming arrangements.

For those children that will be at home, I want to provide you with a few key points of reassurance. Across The Clinton and Dolton C of E Schools, we have had a lot of practice now with remote learning and will do our utmost to ensure a positive and productive experience for all children whilst ensuring continued progress in learning. We would like the children to have daily routine and reassurance of 'seeing' school staff and classmates, but without the pressure of screen time involved replicating the whole timetable. Therefore, the day will be split between online sessions and independent work which we believe is the happiest balance for all pupils and parents.

The children will be taught in key stage bubbles with Mrs. Partridge's year 3's joining Lions and Swallows class each day. A timetable for each key stage bubble has been attached to this letter and a breakdown of how to log on each morning will be sent later today – in the meantime please ensure you can log on to your child's Alumnis email account from home. It is important that children participate each day, unless they are unwell, in which case parents should contact the school office, as usual, before 9.15am so the registers can be completed correctly. We are aware that this is a new way of working and there may be some teething issues over the next few days as we work together to move into a new routine for the next 6 weeks. If you have any concerns regarding computing facilities, we are here to help as much as we can, please contact the school office as soon as possible so we can work together to find a solution.



I know that after a difficult year with Coronavirus this recent announcement will cause further disruption to families. However, with Coronavirus' at a record high and a new variant of the virus spreading at a faster rate the new plans will help keep our communities safe which is a top priority for everyone.

As always, we are here to help and in line with our trust business plan, we have recruited two social inclusion officers who began working across the trust on Monday 5th January. Both officers have extensive experience and are thoroughly looking forward to working with each school and families across the trust. A letter will follow later this week introducing both Mr. James Creek and Mrs. Sonia Grant, their contact details and how they can offer support during lock down.

You have my best intentions,

Warm regards,

LSharpe Mrs. Rachael Sharpe