



Kirklees Council, Moorlands Road, Huddersfield, HD3 3UH

Headteacher: Mrs. Amanda Denney

Tel: (01484) 655800

Website: www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk

E-mail: office@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

@MoorlandsHudds

Friday, 20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

We have been instructed to close the school from today until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and children with certain needs. The guidance for key workers is in the following document.

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

We understand that this situation is going to cause huge challenges for everyone, but we are sure you will agree that the health and wellbeing of everyone is the most important in all of this.

The government are now wanting to further limit the spread of the virus and so they have made the decision to keep most children away from a place where infection can spread quickly. They are also trying to make sure that people who work in jobs that are vital for keeping essential services running are able to work. Public Health England have said that schools need to take account of both: a) the latest government scientific advice on the proportion of pupils that it is advisable to maintain direct support for in order to maintain efforts to delay the spread of the virus. This has been set by the government as a maximum of 20% of the school population; and b) the number of staff available to work. This may require schools to prioritize which pupils receive an offer, according to greatest need.

This means that wherever possible we would appeal to you to keep your child at home until further notice.

The Government guidance is that we follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

We sent out a form and letter yesterday asking for Key Worker parents to let us know if they in need of childcare from Monday. We have been inundated with requests. We would like to remind you that this childcare should be the **absolutely last** resort, and if there is anyone else who can look after your child, please make arrangements.

We obviously have to think about not only the safety of the children, but our staff and their families and the wider community. In the weeks to come everyone will need to make sacrifices to keep everyone safe.



We are in the process of looking at all the applications and have had to make priorities. **Those families who have been allocated a place at school during the closure will be contacted before Monday.** This will be reviewed daily. **If you do not hear, please do not bring your child to school.** At this time, we cannot contact all parents with our decision as there have been so many requests and we have many staff self-isolating. Please make alternative arrangements. We are sorry that this will inconvenience families.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by via email and on our website.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

We have now moved onto the Governments delay stage and all schools will be closed to most children, for the foreseeable future as from the evening of Friday 20th March.

We would like to ensure children have access to learning and therefore activities will be available on our website. Go to Children, home learning and click on your child's year group.

Each year group has their own page:

EYFS: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Reception&pid=139>

Year 1: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+1&pid=140>

Year 2: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+2&pid=141>

Year 3: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+3&pid=142>

Year 4: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+4&pid=143>

Year 5: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+5&pid=144>

Year 6: <https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+6&pid=145>

There are also a list of websites that might be useful on our website

<https://www.moorlandsprimary.org.uk/news/?pid=18&nid=4&storyid=293>

Class teachers are available on the following email addresses, you can send completed homework to them if you wish, they are also available to answer any questions.

DD – DD@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

HH – HH@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

SS – SS@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

1J – 1J@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

1O – 1O@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

1W – 1W@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

2C – 2C@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

2HW – 2HW@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

2O – 2O@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

3D – 3D@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

3P – 3P@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

3S – 3S@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

4C – 4C@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

4P – 4P@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

4S – 4S@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

5A – 5A@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

5WA – 5WA@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

5W – 5W@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

6B – 6B@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

6CM – 6CM@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

6S – 6S@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

If your child usually receives free school meals, we have already been in touch through ParentPay. Please check your ParentPay regularly.

At this moment we do not know if we will be going ahead with the Year 4 and Year 6 residential. We will let you know when we have further information.

This is as much as we know right now, and we appreciate your continued patience with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via office@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Best wishes

Everyone at Moorlands Primary School