



Worlingham CEVC Primary School
Garden Lane, Worlingham, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7SB
Telephone: 01502 712375 Email: office@wcevcps.org
Headteacher: Mr P Seeman BA (Hons.), MA, PGCE, NPQH, NLE



20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers on the 'key worker' list.

Thank you all for responding so quickly to the letter this morning, and where relevant, for responding also to any subsequent questions or queries we might have had.

This is a changing situation, but on current information we are looking at the school remaining open for around 70 children on a daily basis.

I want to make the following points crystal clear, based on government guidance:

- Every child who CAN be cared for at home, should be.
- 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.
- 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.

In practice, this should mean that we would not expect to see every child on that list, all of the time. The reasons for that are not about us not wanting them, but rather regarding our duty:

- to ensure **key workers** can get to work (not spouses/partners)
- and also limit the spread of infection

As a key worker, you are a **critical** part of the infrastructure. This is why the government want you to work, and why you **need** to get to work. This is why we are very happy to have your children in school when they need to be. There are several people whom we have asked for further clarification as to the 'criticalness' of their roles and who will need to get that clarified with their employer before their entitlement is confirmed.

However, if your child brings home infection because they have been into school unnecessarily, you will not be able to fulfil that 'key' role for two weeks because you will need to self-isolate as a family. Equally, if they have infection and bring it into school, it will spread to other children who NEED to be in school and they will then take it home and prevent OTHER key workers from fulfilling their roles.

Hence, for only that reason, we are asking ALL parents on the 'approved' list:

Only send your child into school
when absolutely necessary.

When not in school, we would direct parents to the 'Home Learning' activities on the school website. We will not be following up 'absences' as we would normally do unless a child has a certain vulnerability we are aware of. We will of course send any child home who is ill!

Organisation

That aside, here are the arrangements for how we plan to run the school for the foreseeable future:

- Children will be organised into 2 groups, with a teacher and a TA, who both will be on weekly rotas, for one week at a time, with other staff on 'cover' should someone fall ill. We will be basing each group in the same two classrooms, as yet undecided. This rota will be organised until the summer holidays – hopefully we will all be back properly before then!
- Myself, Mr Brown and Mr Marchand, as senior leaders and safeguarding leads, will be on a 3 week rota out of class. Mrs Jennings will be supporting this from home.
- The office will be covered every day.
- MSAs, kitchen staff and cleaners will also be in every day if they are able to, so lunches will run as normal, albeit with a changed menu.
- Squirrels will also be covered and be open, bookable & chargeable as usual. This is the most likely aspect of school that could be forced to close intermittently through illness, etc, as cover is limited.

We will publish the rota on the school website so you can see who will be teaching which group, and when.

Unless in Squirrels, we will ask all children to come into school via the door next to Goldfinches' class at the front of the school, where a member of staff each day will be on duty. Likewise, all children will leave through that door unless in Squirrels.

Teachers will attempt to deliver as good an education as they can to those children who are here, but we are also realistic about how that will work, so usual lesson timetables will not be followed and I would expect to see a more creative curriculum on a day by day basis given the range of children in groups and intermittent attendance. We would still expect children to wear uniform to help that semblance of normality, and please send them in with PE kits as you normally would.

If the school for whatever reason needed to close, the LA are working on providing emergency provision so key workers can still get their children into an educational setting. We don't have further details for that yet. In theory children from other schools could also come here for odd days. I would again reiterate that children should only be sent to school as a necessity to combat the spread of infection. Otherwise, please treat the school as you normally would! Stay healthy!

Easter Holidays/May Half Term/Bank Holidays

School is remaining open along these lines in the school holidays, staffed by volunteers. Unless we are told otherwise, our plan is NOT to open on Bank Holidays (Good Friday 10th April; Easter Monday 13th April; VE Day Friday 8th May; May Bank Holiday Monday 25th May). **If both parents are key workers and on rota on these days** please let us know as soon as you can and I can only promise we will see what we can do!

Yours faithfully,

Paul Seeman

Headteacher