



Barrow CEVC Primary School

Inspire, Create, Discover, Together

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Headteacher: Mrs H Ashe BA (Hons)



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

School Closure Update

Following this evening's announcement by the Prime Minister, I write to confirm that the school will be closed to most children with immediate effect. The school will NOT now reopen tomorrow as planned. This closure will be until further notice.

Key Worker Childcare

Details of childcare provision for keyworkers and other named groups have already been shared with those parents who have pre-registered with us. Please contact as a matter of urgency if you still need to register. Key Worker childcare provision will be available on a pre-booked basis from Tuesday, 5th January 2021.

Free School Meals

We are awaiting further information on how we can best provide for all families who are currently in receipt of free school meals. We will be in touch with those families directly over the next few days with details of the support on offer and how to access it.

Remote Learning Arrangements

From Tuesday, 5th January we will switch all year groups onto our Remote Learning Plan. Our remote learning strategy gives families access to whole school and year group specific learning materials via the secure online platform **Google Classroom**. Every child will already have a login and all families should have immediate access. The following arrangement will apply:

- Class teachers will set daily tasks for the children to complete and these will be uploaded into their specific year group areas by 8.30am each morning. The nature of this may vary, as there may be specific resources and subjects that suit particular year groups. The teachers will try to use as diverse a range of materials as they can though to ensure that the activities are engaging, relevant and of high quality; this will include short instructional videos the teachers will prepare along with worksheets, games, quizzes and materials available from educational websites.
- Staff will maintain an online presence via their specific Google Classroom year group stream and regularly check in through the working day to answer queries, offer support or troubleshoot where required. Individual feedback will be provided on identified tasks.
- The class pages on the school website will also direct parents to a range of websites and other useful links.
- I have attached a copy of our Remote Learning Policy which offers further detail on our strategy and expectations.

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We realise that families may find, for a variety of reasons, completing any work set challenging; this may be because parents are working from home, or there are a number of children to keep occupied. We would encourage you to do as much as you are able to do with the time and resource you have available. If you have limited access to technology at home, we are able to support you with a bank of digital devices available on loan. Please contact the school should you need further details of this.

The teaching staff will begin uploading remote learning from tomorrow morning. Please login into Google Classroom with your child as soon as possible to ensure that you have access and that you understand how the platform works. We will be able to see those accounts that have been activated and will contact you if accounts remain dormant to check in to see if support is required. If you are having any particular difficulties please contact the school office by telephone or via the following email address admin@barrow.suffolk.sch.uk. A member of staff will respond to you as quickly as possible.

Throughout the period of the closure, we will continue to communicate with you through the usual channels of ParentMail, Twitter and our website, alongside our Google Classroom platform. If you need to contact the school, please do so via the office email address admin@barrow.suffolk.sch.uk from Tuesday, 5th January 2021. Emails will be checked regularly throughout the working day and the relevant member of staff will respond to you as quickly as possible.

I am, as always, hugely grateful to all of our wonderful staff, to our governors and parents as we once again navigate this challenging situation together. As a school community, we remain committed to caring for and supporting one another during these unprecedented times. I am confident that by working together, we can successfully meet the difficulties of the coming weeks with patience, courage and kindness.

With my very best wishes

Helen Ashe
Headteacher