



# Durweston CE VA Primary School

Durweston, Blandford Forum, Dorset

DT11 0QA

Tel: 01258 452277

Email: [office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk)

Website: [www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk)

Head teacher: Nicola Brooke



*'Stand true in what you believe. Be courageous, be strong. And do everything with love.'* 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to know what information to send out at the moment, as the situation seems to change by the hour, but I wanted to reassure you all that we are putting in place contingency plans for the foreseeable future.

### **The current situation**

Information about what to do if you think you or your children may have symptoms of the virus (a temperature of 37.8 or above and/or a persistent cough) was sent out yesterday but the period of self-isolation may now be extended from 7 to 14 days following Boris Johnson's speech yesterday. Please check here for the latest advice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

We do have some children at the moment with coughs and colds. If in doubt keep your child and any siblings at home. We will obviously be sending home any children who develop a cough or a fever during the day.

Whilst teachers are still planning for work in school, they cannot also provide work for children at home. Use the time to keep reading, use Spelling Shed and Maths Shed and complete some homework tasks.

In school, we are continuing to limit unnecessary contact as much as possible. All non-essential events and meetings are being cancelled and we are still asking people to only come onto the premises if absolutely necessary. Children, staff and visitors are being asked to wash their hands regularly.

After school clubs and most music lessons will continue as normal until further notice as we believe that a single individual coming in to school to deliver a service is an acceptable risk. Singing lessons have been cancelled as of today as Mrs Ford is in the vulnerable group.

We have cancelled:

- Sing Up concert
- May Fair
- Porpoises trip to Salisbury Cathedral
- Parents Forum and Open Morning

We are planning to still hold the Welly Walk and Easter Service, but only for the children and staff in school. Following government advice swimming will continue as normal.

If teaching staff need to self-isolate, classes may be split or covered by other members of staff. We may have to compromise on the quality of teaching and learning, but we will aim to keep school open for as long as we can.





# Durweston CE VA Primary School

Durweston, Blandford Forum, Dorset

DT11 0QA

Tel: 01258 452277

Email: [office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk)

Website: [www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk)

Head teacher: Nicola Brooke



*'Stand true in what you believe. Be courageous, be strong. And do everything with love.' 1 Corinthians 16:13-14*

## If we have to close

In the event of closure, we are currently planning to send daily emails with tasks for your children to complete at home. I am ordering exercise books and pencils today so that we can send the children home with something to write on and something to write with!

As ever, reading is the most important thing we would ask you to continue to do with your children. We will try to send your children home with as many books as we can, but clearly we only have a limited number! However, remember that re-reading for fluency is a valuable task. Also, many companies are currently offering online resource free in the case of school closures, and we will make these available to you. And CGP are always a good reliable source of materials.

Although the school building will be closed to children, staff will continue to work either from home or school, up until the Easter holidays, and will be contactable by email.

## How you can help

- Make sure we have your most recent contact details and email address
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. BBC Newsround has regular updates that are appropriate for children and will help answer their questions
- Collect your child quickly if we contact you
- Support your child's learning in the event of school closure
- Share information with us. Of course, we will keep things confidential; we just want to keep our community as safe as we possibly can

Kind regards,

Nicola Brooke

