



Busbridge CE (Aided) Junior School
Brighton Road
Busbridge
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1XA

Telephone: 01483 417302

Headteacher

Mr Richard Catchpole BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Email: admin@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk
Website: www.busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring Term 2021 – update #2 – School Closure

Apologies for Update #2 following so rapidly after Update #1. However, I am sure that most of you will have been watching this evening's broadcast by Mr Boris Johnson just now in which he has asked all primary schools to close with immediate effect, except for children of critical workers and those children deemed to be vulnerable.

Unfortunately, we were not party to any of this information before the general public and so, in line with the other schools in the Godalming Learning Partnership, BJS will be closed tomorrow (Tuesday 5th January) to the vast majority of pupils while we prepare to open to children of critical workers and vulnerable children on Wednesday 6th January.

While we do have much in place (switching to online learning will be smoother this time), it is not possible to simply switch from one day to the next with no notice or time to prepare. We started this term in good faith, believing that we would be in school for the foreseeable future. I am sorry for the inevitable disruption that this rapid school closure will cause to some parents tomorrow (Tuesday).

In the previous paragraph I said that BJS would be closed to the vast majority of pupils. We are able to offer childcare to children for whom **both parents are Key Workers** or to **single parents who are Key Workers**. If your family fits this **strict** criteria and you wish your BJS child to attend BJS tomorrow **please inform either myself or Mrs Barker by 8am tomorrow morning** by email to: head@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk or rbarker@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk.

The school day tomorrow will run from 9am to 3.30pm, and your child will need a packed launch. Please note that it is our preference that all children stay away from school tomorrow so that we can prepare for Wednesday and beyond.

Tomorrow we will be planning our ongoing in-school provision for Key Worker children and other cohorts. We have recently asked Y3 parents if they are Key Workers. We asked other year groups the same question back in March 2020. If you feel your position has changed (i.e. your Key Worker status has changed) please inform us asap.

It is important that nobody sends any child to school on Wednesday unless they have specifically heard from us tomorrow that they are to do so. We will contact parents of all children who are entitled to attend on Wednesday.

Thank you for your understanding and apologies for the ridiculously short time frame that the government announcement has provided us to work within.

Take care

Kind regards

Richard Catchpole (Headteacher)

