



Ingram Avenue, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 9DJ
Tel:- 01296 – 481353
Fax:- 01296 – 424846
Email: - office@bedgroveinfant.co.uk
Website: - www.bedgroveinfantschool.co.uk
Headteacher:- Miss Julie Lawrence

19th March 2020

School Closure update in response to COVID19

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will have heard on the news yesterday, the Prime Minister has closed all schools in England from Friday afternoon. We will close our gates at 3:00pm and Grover at their normal time. We will be sending children home at 3:00pm on Friday with all of their belongings; Book Bags, PE kits, water bottles and some library books. We do not know how long this closure will be for.

Child Care Provision

School will remain open for essential **key workers** children and certain identified pupils **only**, as a last resort for parents who are key workers and have no other way of looking after their children. At the moment, our guidance as to who qualifies as a key worker lists front line NHS workers, Police, Social Care, and essential delivery drivers. To enable us to begin our planning, if you could indicate to us if you feel that **both** parents fall into the key worker category and you require this child care from us. If you are a single parent family, and a key worker, and have no other way to look after your children, this would also apply to you. **Please identify yourselves to the school by 3.00pm today, Thursday 19th March by emailing the school office an image of your photo ID or essential worker status and completing the keyworker childcare form on Parent Mail.** The school will contact specific families of vulnerable and SEN children that we are also asked to support where possible.

Extended hours

Child care will be provided in our setting between the normal school hours of 9am and 3pm. If you require provision outside these hours, please contact Grover on 07979 876830 or admin@groverclub.co.uk to book a place with them, as they will be open for their normal hours for children of **key workers only**. At this time, they will be running their holiday club as usual for **key worker children only** to maintain the child care provision over the Easter holidays.

Staffing

Due to the current staffing issues facing schools, with staff self-isolating and/or being unwell themselves, please be aware that we may still need to close should our staffing levels fall too low to maintain safe provision.

Work for Pupils

We currently have no indication of how long the school will be closed for; teachers will provide work online and this will be updated regularly. You can access this work using the seesaw link previously sent and resources on the school website. The School will be in regular contact with parents via email.

While we hope you can facilitate some work with your children at home, we urge parents to not worry overly about their child regressing academically. Every child across the country will be in this situation and ultimately, they will be okay. When we are back in the classroom, we will of course, fill the knowledge gaps; as Teachers, we are experts at this. In this difficult time, please do not insist that your children complete work. At the end of all of this, your children's mental health will be more important than their academic skills. How they felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did during these weeks. We know some children are perhaps concerned right now and may be picking up on the tension and anxiety around us. They have never experienced anything like this before. We need children to feel comforted, loved and reassured.



Ingram Avenue, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 9DJ
Tel:- 01296 – 481353
Fax:- 01296 – 424846
Email: - office@bedgroveinfant.co.uk
Website: - www.bedgroveinfantschool.co.uk
Headteacher:- Miss Julie Lawrence

Safeguarding

In the event that you have a safeguarding concern whilst your child is not attending school, please call First Response on 0845 4600001, or in an emergency call the Police on 101.

If you feel that you are struggling and/or require support yourself, please email the office@ address with F.A.O Mrs Borg in the subject box. We can then direct your message to our Child and Family Liaison Worker, Mrs Borg, who will try to support in any way she can.

Support for low income families

We are looking at ways to support those families that currently qualify for Free School Meals and we will release more information soon.

Symptoms

Even though we remain open for child care for these specific groups of children, as per the government guidelines, anyone who displays the symptoms of a new persistent dry cough or a high temperature should self-isolate themselves, along with other members of their household, for 14 days. Please keep your children at home if this applies to you and your household for the health and safety of the staff and children who remain within our setting.

During this time, all the staff of Bedgrove Infant School send you their best wishes and we hope you all keep safe and healthy. We look forward to welcoming you back to us as soon as we are able to. We will of course, keep you updated on this as things develop.

Please take care and thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Julie Lawrence'.

Julie Lawrence
Headteacher

