

St Philip Westbrook C of E Aided Primary School Together we aim high and with God's love we can fly'

St Philip's Centre District Centre Westbrook Warrington WA5 8UE

Mrs J Wightman Headteacher

Tel: 01925 445391

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

All schools have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children <u>after this Friday</u> until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children who are vulnerable.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if both parents of your child are likely to fall into the frontline services category and that you will need child care to enable you to undertake your important role. **Please email us today if you think that this <u>may</u> apply to you**. We'll be in touch again as soon as we are sure which workers this applies to.

Please note that schools will only be expected to provide <u>child care</u> and children will be looked after in mixed age groups with a range of staff who are not required to undertake social distancing. Key workers' children are not obliged to attend school if their parents do not want to send them and have other child care arrangements that does not include the elderly.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is by email and will also post this on the home page of our website.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn.

- Parents and pupils can find work set for them on a daily basis on your child's Year Group page on our website which can be found under the Class Pages tab. Children will be shown where to find this in school before we close.
- > Children will be expected to complete this work on a daily basis.
- > Your child will receive feedback from their teacher on a regular basis.
- If your child needs to contact their teacher they can do so via the worry box on the Children's Page of our website. We do not have the facility to reply directly to this but an email will be sent to the parent during normal working hours the following day.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

What we won't be able to go ahead with

- > School trips all monies paid will be refunded.
- > Breakfast or after-school clubs

Internal exams or tests – Y2 and Y6 SATs will not go ahead, neither will the Y1 Phonics Screening Check or the Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use <u>NHS 111</u> online.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we will be in touch with more information when we can.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J A Wightman Headteacher