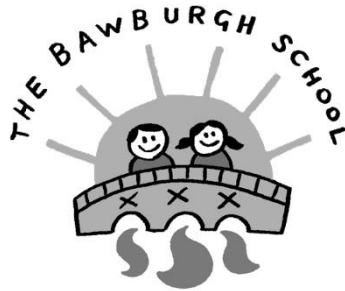


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Chair of Governors: Mr S. Kelly

Sunday 3rd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to let you know about the current situation concerning the planned return of all pupils on Monday 4th January, given recent reports in the national press, meeting with the local authority today and following on from my ParentMail communication I sent to you all on New Years Day.

The situation has and is changing on a day-to-day, hour by hour basis and school leaders are having to respond quickly to developing circumstances.

We all strongly believe that being in education is vital for children's development and wellbeing. Time spent out of school is detrimental to children's learning, development and wellbeing, particularly for disadvantaged children.

However, the safety of our school community is paramount and, due to unclear messages from the government, severe anxiety from all stakeholders around rising infection rates in our local area, and potentially insufficient staffing levels, I have made the difficult decision to **close** The Bawburgh School to all children apart from critical worker and vulnerable children.

I envisage this closure will be for the next two weeks but this will be regularly reviewed and I will of course keep you all updated. This closure is supported by our Governing Board.

The school will be closed to **ALL pupils on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5th January** - this is to ensure we have the appropriate time to plan for when we reopen for critical worker and vulnerable children on Wednesday 6th January.

A google form has been created, please follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/qWz5SCE5vctSZAj77> and complete the booking form by **10.30am on Monday 4th January**.

**Places for in-school provision will only be allocated if this form is completed. If you can care for your child at home, please try to do so, as before use our provision as the last resort. Please refer to the updated list to check that your child is eligible for a place: [Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings](#)**



Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club will reopen on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Please continue to book as normal for this and the normal charges will still apply.

From Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January we will move to our remote learning provision for all children who will not be eligible to attend school. Your child(ren's) teachers will be in contact with you via Class DoJo or Tapestry to share the arrangements.

If your child is eligible for means tested Free School Meals and is not attending school as a critical worker or vulnerable child - we will provide a two week food parcel. Our admin team will make contact with you about this tomorrow.

I appreciate this is an extremely challenging time for both parents, carers and pupils and I apologise that I cannot offer you complete clarity at this point with regard to an exact timescale. I also apologise for the late notice in sending this email, but this decision was only made at 1pm today. We have worked tirelessly to put the safety of pupils and staff first and this still remains our key priority.

I assure you that all staff would like nothing better than to see the return of all pupils to our school so normal teaching can resume when it is safe for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

As always please do contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

With my best wishes



Carla Stedman  
Headteacher

