



Coventry Grove Wheatley,
Doncaster, DN2 4PY
Telephone: 01302 349275
Email: office@astrea-kingfisher.org
Principal: Catherine Skinn
Deputy Principal: Alison Parsons

Friday 20th March 2020

Government Enforced School Closure Update

Dear Families,

I'm now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed by the Government to close Kingfisher Primary to almost all children after Friday 20th March 2020 until further notice. As you will be aware we are following government guidance in relation to the admission of children into our schools. Our natural inclination is to want to help and to provide a full educational offer to all children; however, this is a very important suppression measure to limit social contact and to ensure we can do our bit to slow down the spread of the virus for the good of the country.

It is for this reason that we have to be very strict in relation to who we can admit to schools during this time and that this is limited to the children identified by the government as vulnerable and the children of parents who are key workers. As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers: NHS staff, police, fire brigade, supermarket delivery drivers, social workers and school workers, in the frontline services.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23rd March 2020 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 will re-open fully as soon as we can and will let you know when this is via the school website and the Astrea Parent App (please ensure you are signed up to the service as this will be our main form of communication during this time and where additional learning opportunities will be posted)

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

All staff if well, will be working during normal school hours 8:30 – 3:30. Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we'll continue to help your child to learn and expect you to ensure your children complete the work. It is vital that during this prolonged absence from school that all children continue to rehearse, revisit and revise their knowledge, as such we will provide a pack of work which will have been sent home with the children, this is work set by each class teacher for their class. In the coming weeks there will be additional learning activities posted on the Astrea Parent App for children to access. Parents will be able to contact the school via the Astrea Parent App and office@astrea-kingfisher.org.

Class teachers will carry out a weekly phone calls to all families of children in their class to check how everything is going and in order to maintain contact with each child. It is therefore crucial that we have up to date contact details. If you are concerned these may be out of date please contact the school office.



Coventry Grove Wheatley,
Doncaster, DN2 4PY
Telephone: 01302 349275
Email: office@astrea-kingfisher.org
Principal: Catherine Skinn
Deputy Principal: Alison Parsons

Free School Meals Y3 – Y6:

If your child usually receives free school meals (this is not universal free school meals) you will be able to collect a packed lunch (grab bag) daily from school, at the main school gate, during term time. We will confirm a time, once the catering company have informed us. We will also be in touch with more information about how we may be able to provide vouchers for local supermarkets, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced, but as of yet we have not been given any specific details of how this will operate.

Unfortunately, we **won't** be able to go ahead with after-school clubs from Monday 23rd February 2020. We will be in contact with families who have paid for after school clubs for this half term to look at how we can issue a partial refund.

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.

If you want to get in touch to ask any questions, please don't hesitate to do so via the [office](mailto:office@astrea-kingfisher.org) @astrea-kingfisher.org email.

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

This week, I have been heartened by the dedication and commitment of all Kingfisher staff to ensure all our children and families are cared for, loved and supported during these challenging times.

I would really like to thank you for your patience and support during what is a very worrying and anxious time.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Skinn
Principal