Headteacher: Mrs V Guest

Lostock Primary School
Glengarth Drive
Lostock
Bolton BL6 4PS

Tele: (01204) 333733
Fax: (01204) 333734
E mail: office@lostock.bolton.sch.uk
Web site: www.lostock.bolton.sch.uk

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE 19.3.20

School Closure from Friday 20th March at 3:30pm

Dear Parent/Carer,

Last night, the Prime Minister announced that schools, colleges and early years settings will be closed to everyone except children of key workers and vulnerable children from Monday, as part of the country's ongoing response to coronavirus. At the time of writing this letter, the government has yet to publish further guidance for schools. We will understand the full extent of what we are being expected to do once the guidance is published.

Home learning
Teachers will set online learning tasks via the class blogs, MyMaths and Spelling Shed. Please see the Emergency School Closure Curriculum Policy for further details, which can be found on the school website. (Parents/Carers – Coronavirus Updates – Policies and Guidance)

Provision for children of 'key workers' and 'vulnerable children'
Examples of these key workers possibly include: NHS staff, emergency services, teachers and delivery drivers who need to be able to go to work. Vulnerable children include: those who have a social worker and those with Education, Health and Care Plans. We are awaiting a full list of key worker categories from the Cabinet Office later today. The provision may be here at Lostock Primary School, or the Local Authority may work with the Department for Education's regional teams to ensure an alternative option is available. In order to help us formulate a plan for this, please can you notify school before 12pm tomorrow (Friday 20th March) if your child requires a place in school because **BOTH** parents/carers are key workers, or because you are a **single parent/carer** and are a key worker listed above. You will also need to provide us with some evidence of your current role (ID badge, contract, service website which identifies you). If you are happy for your child to learn from home and can provide your own alternative childcare, you do not need to notify us.

Update on assessments and examinations
The government also confirmed that schools will not go ahead with assessments or exams, and that performance tables will not be published this academic year. This includes:

- end of key stage 1 and key stage 2 assessments (including tests and teacher assessment)
- phonics screening check
- multiplication tables check

Free school meal provision
The government has indicated that they will give schools the flexibility to provide meals or vouchers to children eligible for free school meals and that as soon as possible, they will put in place a national voucher system. As yet, we have no further details to share, but as soon as we do, you will be updated.

I will write to you tomorrow once we know more. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

Vicki Guest
Headteacher