



The Laurels
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Charlotte Bull

CB/mw

26 March 2020

Update at 5.30pm 26.03.2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you have had a positive start to the first week of school closure and that you are all well. Your messages of support are really appreciated in these challenging times, thank you. Our children and staff continue to be **amazing** as we work together through this situation.

Critical workers provision (childcare)

- We are keen to keep critical workers and their families safe so that they are able to carry out their vital work, this includes The Laurels staff and their own families.
- Children with at least one parent/carers who is critical to the COVID-19 response can attend this provision. However, many families with parents working in critical sectors will be able to ensure their child is kept at home.
- The Government has asked us to offer provision to those children **who absolutely need to attend**. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading
- From **Monday 30th March**, we will be moving our provision to **The Pavilion at Durrington High School**. The children can wear their own clothes and should change these daily to reduce the risk of contamination. Provision will continue to run 8.30am-3.00pm. The gate to The Pavilion is on the right-hand side before you get to the main school entrance.
- Children will be **unable** to attend if they have developed a fever or new cough as recommended by the government.
- Please use this google form link to indicate whether you will require provision next week and over the Easter period so we can organise staffing and activities. The form can be amended after submission if shift patterns change. We would appreciate a response by **Sunday 29th March at 12.00pm** <https://forms.gle/dmPXsDa8yk7w48CSA>
- Some additional children are also able to attend this provision if they meet Government criteria as vulnerable. For example, those with a social worker. You will have received a letter to offer your child a place if he/she meets this criteria.

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Distance learning

- The introduction of Google Classroom has been hugely successful. I have had nearly 2000 notifications in my Google Classroom folder since Monday!
- If you have any technical issues, please email itservices@dmfmat.education for support
- The class teachers should be able to assist with any password queries.
- Please note this is not home schooling. This is an unprecedented emergency situation and we are all trying the best we can! The whole community is making an incredible effort and I'm really proud of this.
- You are loving and supporting your children through this difficult time. Make sure you look after you too and don't feel guilty if your child doesn't complete an activity. You are and always have been your child's main educator. If you want your child to bake, play with Lego and make dens in the garden – go for it! All of this is very valuable learning.
- The teachers are enjoying seeing and communicating with the children online. School is very quiet without them! However, if we don't hear from you for a while, we may be in contact just to check you are OK.

Trips updates

- Due to the uncertainty for everyone in the country at the moment, we have decided to postpone the residential for the current Year 4's to the beginning of next academic year. This will be a great bonding activity to start Year 5.
- We continue to monitor the situation for the Year 6 residential as Kingswood will have to suspend operations temporarily. Current guidance suggests only trips due to take place in April 2020 be cancelled.

Thank you as always for your continued support. I shall continue to keep you updated.

Kind regards,



Charlotte Bull
Headteacher