



BOURNMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Half term holidays

Just a reminder school closes on Friday 12th February for half term week. As per government guidance, our school will be fully closed to all pupils including vulnerable children and those from critical workers. We will reopen for eligible pupils on Monday 22nd February to begin the next half of this academic year. We hope that all pupils can return to school in March as the government has previously said but as yet we have no date for this but will keep you informed when we have more information.

Track and Trace

The Department for Education have asked schools to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation for the first 48 hours of half term. Therefore, if your child tests positive for Covid-19 up to Monday 15th February please email bournmoor@durhamlearning.net to let us know. The school email account will be checked daily up to this point. However, if your child has a positive test after this point then the usual Public Health contact system should be used.

School Places for Vulnerable Children and Critical Workers

The parents of eligible children received a text on Monday this week to let them know the days their child(ren) are in school for the week beginning 22nd February. We have asked that parents phone on a Monday to book places and many critical workers are only requesting the exact days they need. We are very grateful to the support we have had from parents with regard to this. We continue to offer places to eligible children, ensuring a safe learning environment for pupils and adhering to our risk assessment. The following criteria has been provided by the government for school places during closures to provide clarity:

Vulnerable children and young people include those who are:

- *are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child*
- *have an education, health and care (EHC) plan*
- *have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:*
- *children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services*
- *adopted children or children on a special guardianship order*
- *those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')*
- *those living in temporary accommodation*
- *those who are young carers*
- *those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)*

- *care leavers*
- *others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health*

Critical Workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.

Remote Learning

Teachers will not be setting remote learning or homework for over half term. Children need a well-deserved break and we hope they enjoy their holiday. We know from our Teams register and Tapestry register that the vast majority of children are accessing their learning.

Pupil Welfare

If for any reason a child is not able to complete work, we ensure that welfare calls are made to provide support and offer advice. If we are unable to contact parents, or have concerns about pupils not accessing their work, then we have been advised by the Head of Education and Skills for Durham Authority that a letter should be sent outlining the measures to be taken to ensure pupils are safe and well. This may include a referral to the Local Authority.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

L A Snowden

Mrs Laura Snowden (Headteacher)