



Bishop Cornish CEVA Primary School
Lynher Drive
Saltash
Cornwall
PL12 4PA
Tel: 01752 845463
Headteacher: Mrs S C Green



Friday, 20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We know that there is a huge amount of uncertainty and unprecedented disruption at present and, on behalf of all the staff and governors, we want you to know that you are all in thoughts at this difficult time.

As you know, at the end of today the school closes for **all** children except those who have a parent who is a **key worker**. This is a change from the guidance we received from the Local Authority yesterday. We have now received a definition of who is classed as a key worker and the list is quite extensive. If you believe you fall into this category you must notify the school and request a place in school.

We are urging parents, who are able, to keep their children at home. Where one parent is not a key worker and is able to work from home we urge you not to send your child to school.

We implore parents to be honest and work closely with us to follow government instructions carefully and not to put lives at risk. We will only be able to provide this support if our staff and their own families stay well hence, the need to use this facility sensibly, wisely and with care. Should we have too many children who cannot be safely cared for we will need to prioritise where both parents or a sole parent are key workers. We want to be able to ensure this facility is available to those who critically need it.

The Government has said: "Many parents working in these critical sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be. This is an offer to parents and carers and there is no requirement for parents and carers to send their children to school if they do not need or wish to do so."

The Government has also placed a requirement on key worker parents to obtain confirmation from their employer that, based on business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service. We will need confirmation of this as soon as parents are able to provide it.

We know that for some parents, who do not meet these criteria, they will need to find alternative child care and that this is going to be incredibly challenging.

We have now adapted our website so that there is a **Home Learning** tab at the top of the page. Each class teacher will post in the relevant class section a menu of ideas for the children to explore each day. These are designed to be fun ideas and activities for the children and we hope parents will be

able to support them. The activities range from making to baking. We also encourage parents to read with their children every day – this is so important. We hope you can use these ideas flexibly, along with some of the on-line resources the teachers will recommend.

We will be in regular contact with you all over the coming weeks however, if you have any queries, questions, information or concerns we have set up a new email address which will be accessed / monitored by a number of key school staff so that we can respond more quickly. Please use this email for all correspondence:

enquiries@bishop-cornish.cornwall.sch.uk

We ask that parents use our website for information or email us for clarification rather than rely on social media which is proving to be less than reliable.

We look forward to seeing you all again, soon we hope and rest assured, we will miss the children so much.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Green', with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

Mrs Sue Green
Headteacher