

18.03.2020

We are living through unprecedented times, and this afternoon Worcestershire County Council & Worcestershire Children's First have made the decision to close all Special Schools (not SEMH Schools or PRU's).

Large numbers of our children have underlying medical conditions and learning disabilities that make them very susceptible to Covid-19. I also have a large number of staff who fit into this vulnerable bracket, as well as several pregnant staff. I have a duty of care for my pupils and my staff. My staff also have families to care for and worry about, currently I am unable to visit my 84-year-old mother who is very frail which is distressing.

As more staff become ill, or have to self-isolate due to family members, we do not have safe levels of staffing to care for our pupils. The safety of your children has always been, and will always be, my number one priority. We are also running low on hygiene products and due to the stock piling of inconsiderate people this will become an issue.

We will be closed a week at a time and will return when Worcestershire County Council & Worcestershire Children's First, supported by medical advice, say it is safe to do so. We are hoping to return as soon as possible, but will update you weekly.

Please do not take anything you read on social media as fact! Already the rumour mill is working overtime and is wrong. Only take factual information about our school from myself or school staff. Thank you to the parents who have phoned with support and thanks – in these situations we are certainly damned if we do and damned if we don't.

Teachers will be emailing work/activities/suggested ideas appropriate for your child on a weekly basis and texting. You will be able to email teachers as well. Please remember they will only be working during 'work' hours, not at weekends and not during the holidays. We will try hard to ensure the continuity of your child's education in these difficult times and hopefully give practical ideas.

I will send a weekly update to hopefully help you plan.

Tomorrow (Thursday 19th March), we will be sending home medication, specific equipment, resources where appropriate, work, PECs books and anything else we feel will help support your child.

We are living through extremely difficult times but working together we will get through it and will soon be all back together. Our amazing Wyre Forest family.

Please stay safe and healthy,

With Kind Regards,



Rebecca Garratt,
Headteacher.