



Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the latest Government announcement regarding Covid-19, we wish to stress the important messages and guidance which have been made clear by the Government in response to the current escalating situation and, in particular, the impact on school provision.

On Tuesday 5th January, our school will be closed for ALL children.

KEY WORKER PROVISION

We are looking to open for children of key workers and vulnerable children from Thursday 7th January. Key worker criteria can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We will ask for proof of employment if you request a place in our provision under this criteria. There is no automatic entitlement to a childcare place in school. Please consider if your role is critical to the Covid-19 response. All critical workers will be considered for a place if their job cannot be done from home. Even if you are a key worker yourself, please consider if you have any other alternative childcare options. Is there a second parent or carer who is NOT a key worker who can take the childcare responsibilities? Are there any other family members who are not elderly or vulnerable?

Sending your child to school should be an absolute last resort. Every child who can be safely cared for at home, should be if we are to tackle the spread of this virus together once again.

Should numbers in our schools be too high and we believe both children and staff are at increased risk because of this, we will introduce a tiered system for allocating places. All places will then be reviewed and considered in the light of each family's circumstance/job role etc. Some places may unfortunately need to be withdrawn at this point.

Please email admin@prescotprimary.org.uk **before 1pm today** to request a Key Worker place for your child/children. This request must include proof of Key Worker status such as a letter from your employer or photo of ID. Please tell us what days you will need. Children will attend for normal school hours and can arrive between 8.30am and 9am. Pick up at 3.10pm. Current entrances/exits will apply.



Unfortunately we do not plan to open our Breakfast Club and After School Club provision. This is a difficult decision but we believe that we now need to prioritise the educational provision for our children, as well as keeping our staff and children as safe as possible. Infection rates are increasing and we want to maintain the integrity of our class bubbles.

Children in care/with an EHCP

Our pastoral team will be in touch with each family to ascertain needs for your child. Many children with an EHCP can safely remain at home. In consultation with parents and carers, we can decide what is the best plan for each family.

Free School Meals

The voucher scheme that has been in place during previous lockdowns will continue. If your circumstances have changed, please contact the Council in which you reside:

Knowsley: <https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/education-and-schools/school-meals-and-menus>

St Helens:

<https://onlineforms.sthelens.gov.uk/victoriaforms/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=FSM%20CLAIM%203.wdf>

Remote Learning

For all other children, we will be providing a remote learning offer which matches the current curriculum for their year group and your children's progress through their work will be monitored and checked by their teachers. **This is not the same as the Lockdown in March - your child will be expected to complete their learning at home.**

Nursery and Reception can access their learning tasks via Evidence Me/Parent Share.

Y3 to Y6 have their iPads at home and can access their work via Google Classroom. Accelerated Reader can continue to work brilliantly at home, with the myOn library accessible to all.

We will look to send home Y2 iPads as quickly as possible and will hopefully be able to do the same for Y1. Y1 parents should look out for a Google Form link as you will need to sign the Acceptable User Policy before the device can be sent home.

Further information on remote learning will be provided in the coming days but we do envisage there to be approximately 3 hours of work each day, including reading and wellbeing activities.



Our staff teams will be checking on the pupils' wellbeing and providing pastoral support where required. Please do get in touch if you are concerned about the level of your child's engagement with learning or their mental health in any way.

As we have throughout this pandemic, we remain committed to supporting our families and children during these extremely difficult times. We are in a strong position to teach your children remotely in both their learning and personal development needs.

We are asking that you continue to work with us and pay close attention to government guidelines to keep you, your children and our staff as safe as possible.

School will communicate information and guidance with Parents via our Arbor App and Prescott Primary ParentApp (PA Connect). You will have received invitations for both. If you haven't signed up yet please email the school office at admin@prescotprimary.org.uk. Please regularly check our Twitter feed, your notifications and your email inbox.

Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

Kindest regards,

Mr George and Mrs Seddon