



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents

School closure – awaiting further directives and guidance

You will no doubt be aware of the Prime Minister's announcement that **schools are closing tomorrow** due to COVID-19 but that there are exceptions for some groups of children.

I know that parents will want clarity on this and that you will be awaiting further information from Barrow Hedges about the arrangements. However, at present, all schools are awaiting directives and further guidance about the logistics of keeping the school open and who this will be for.

Please be advised that when announcements are made to the country, schools hear these at the same time as you – we do not have any information in advance.

I hope you will appreciate that there will be lots to consider and plan for when we are provided with more information. Factors include, how to organise a skeleton staff and how many staff are needed, timing of the school day, the provision for lunch and what the children will do. Sadly, because of the seriousness of the situation the country is in, we are now in a position where schools will be providing childcare rather than having education as its core purpose.

I hope to be able to write to parents again later day. A letter may also come from our Trust.

You will have received a letter from me yesterday entitled 'Home Learning' – please ensure that you have read this carefully.

I understand that this is an extremely concerning situation for us all. We will do all we can to support the Barrow Hedges community but do ask that parents bear with us as we work through a whole host of discussions, decisions and tasks – we are all in uncharted territory. I ask that parents only ring the school in an absolute emergency – please email office@barrowhedges.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Kind regards

Louise Wood

Headteacher



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