

4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have this evening been instructed by the Prime Minister to **close the school** to most children. This means only Keyworker children and 'vulnerable' children may attend school from tomorrow, Tuesday 5th January. All other pupils should remain at home until further notice.

We'll let you know when the school is reopening by email, text and the school's website as soon as we have received notification.

In the meantime, your child's class teacher will keep in regular contact with you and your child.

We have our Keyworker list from the Spring term 2020 lockdown, so all those children may attend school if their parents have remained in the same job.

All other parents who feel they may qualify for Keyworker status please consult the government website. At this moment in time I have not been sent the latest list. When I receive it I will pass this information on to parents. Please note we do require evidence for both parents i.e. copies of name badges or letters from employers. Your child may attend school whilst you arrange your evidence.

What we'll continue doing

Your child's learning is extremely important to us, so from tomorrow all learning will move to 'remote learning' via Showbie. Your child's class teacher will ensure work is available tomorrow and will contact you with information about this.

I am aware we have a few children whose parents prefer alternative learning arrangements. Class teachers will support those parents and make appropriate arrangements.

It is **compulsory** your child completes the learning activities provided, in order to ensure this disruption to their education is kept to a minimum.

We appreciate the closure will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from an ideal scenario, but we'll keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops. If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via email; headteacher@dovebank.staffs.sch.uk, or your child's class teacher.

Please use NHS 119 if anyone in your household develops symptoms and book a covid test immediately.

Families are encouraged to keep implementing the protection steps within their homes:

- **Do:**
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- **Don't:**
- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mrs E Ford

Head teacher