



Catshill Middle School

Executive Headteacher: Mr P Essenhigh BEd (Hons), NPQH

Head of School: Mr J Thompson BSc (Hons), NPQH

Meadow Road, Catshill

Bromsgrove, B61 0JW

Tel: 01527 872431

Fax: 01527 837113

Email: office@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk

Twitter: @Catshillmid

19 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As a result of a directive from the Department for Education (DFE), I will be closing both Catshill First School & Nursery and Catshill Middle School from Monday 23rd March for the foreseeable future.

If you believe that your child should attend school as you are classed as key workers or families with a child with an EHCP and/or a social worker who needs access to childcare on site please email covid@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk by **Friday 20th March 3 pm at the latest**. Please state your child(s) **name, class** and your **occupation(s), employers' details** (checks to be undertaken by Worcestershire CC) also identify which days in the coming week(s) you would require care for.

"If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be."

The key principle for us as schools is to embody social distancing.

"Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home."

"Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be."

"Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults."

"If workers think they fall within the critical categories they should confirm with their employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, their specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service."

For this group we are arranging that Catshill First School & Nursery (B61 0JP) will be the base for childcare from Monday 23rd March so please report to this site (no onsite parking please use Gibb Lane) for 08.45 am. **Please bring your child to the school office to sign them in, please also send them with a packed lunch and drink, casual clothes can be worn. They will need to be collected at 3.20 pm.**

Please note that if/when staffing becomes an issue or capacity linked to this and the maintenance of social distancing then our offer may/will be withdrawn and we would be steering you to the local authority for support.

Remote learning for all other pupils can be accessed via our school websites. Please look under the parents tab for a section entitled 'out of school learning'. It is our intention to update these suggested support materials on a weekly basis (subject to the health and well-being of staff).

We will endeavour to keep you updated as to the situation for both schools. Please check the Worcestershire County Council school closures

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/874/school_closures

We will also use our messaging services and social media to share further updates.

To support the safeguarding of children in our care, we have created a bespoke email for each school where concerns can be communicated to our safeguarding teams.

For Catshill Middle School please use safeguarding@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk

For Catshill First School & Nursery please use safeguarding@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk

For urgent safeguarding concerns, please ring the Family Front Door 01905 822666 or use <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/areyouworriedaboutachild> Should your concerns be of an emergency nature please ring 999.

Finally, we have made arrangements to support the feeding of children entitled to free school meals once a day during term time. Additional information is being made available to this group of families.

This is unprecedented in recent times and I hope to be in contact to share better news in the near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Essenhigh', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line that extends to the right.

Mr P Essenhigh
Executive Headteacher