

Headteacher: James Tibbles

Tel: 01227 830276

Email: [office@bridge.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@bridge.kent.sch.uk)

Web: [www.bridge.kent.sch.uk](http://www.bridge.kent.sch.uk)

Bridge & Patricbourne CEP School

Conyngam Lane

Bridge, Canterbury

Kent

CT4 5JX



Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

A lot can change in 24 hours!

As you would have seen at 8pm this evening, the Prime Minister announced a new national lockdown and this means that primary schools will be closed to the majority of children and he indicated that this would be the case until the February half-term holiday.

### School Closure for Majority of Children

The school is open and providing childcare and educational provision for children of 'critical workers' and those deemed 'vulnerable'. This provision will be staffed on a rota basis by the Bridge Staff team and will always include at least two members of SLT, a member of the Safeguarding Team, three first-aiders and at least one member of staff per year group.

Bridge Bees BASC will continue to run for our normal hours between 7.30am and 6pm.

Given the short time-scales, there isn't time to collate information on who is a 'critical worker' from a Google Form in the next couple of days (I'm sure you're disappointed really!) and so we will have to ask you to review the list of critical workers and, if you qualify, you are welcome to send your child into school tomorrow.

The list of critical workers has been updated and can be found on our school website under [Provision for Identified Children](#). There is also a list of Frequently Asked Questions and this will be kept updated.

### Free School Meals

It was announced that provision would be made for eligible families although no details have yet been provided. I will update you with more information as we have it.

### Devices

I know that there will be families who are struggling to access online learning due to a lack of devices or quality of broadband connection. We have purchased a number of laptops for use in school which has freed up the older laptops so that we can send these home for families to borrow. Further details will come home tomorrow but please note that this will take a few days as they need to be 're-built' for use at home.

### Educational Provision

Children who are remaining at home this week will be asked to complete the work set by class teachers from the Oak Academy. Details have already been sent home by Mr Taylor via the school office but these can also be found on the [Remote Educational Provision](#) section of our school website.

We would encourage all children to continue with Times Table Rock Stars and Spelling Shed although we would certainly advocate a 'little and often' approach, i.e. no more than 15 minutes a day. Daily reading should also continue.



If you would like additional opportunities for work then please also keep an eye on our [Web Links](#) and [Virtual Trips](#) pages on our website for additional activities, which we are continually updating.

In line with our Remote Learning Protocols, live lessons for Year 2 children upwards will start from next week. Pre-recorded videos from teaching staff will also be provided by Year R and Year 1 children.

As I said in my earlier letter, please can I ask that you take the time to check that you are able to log onto Microsoft Teams, Spelling Shed, Numbots and/or Times Table Rockstars.

#### [Updates on School Website](#)

You will all know how much I value the importance of open and honest communication with you all. I share your frustration that the government's decision was not made earlier but what matters most is how we, as a community respond to this.

There still remain many unknowns in our situation but please be assured that I will share all information I have with you as soon as I have it. Please do also contact the school if you have any questions.

I will continue to keep our school website up to date so please regularly check the [Coronavirus News](#) section as it is designed to be a one-stop shop for all information that you will need.

I will be writing to you again tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Tibbles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'T'.

James Tibbles  
Headteacher