

4th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Bernard Gilpin Primary School – Coronavirus update

Firstly, may I take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. I am sure many of you will be aware that a decision was made this evening by the Government to close all schools as of tonight, Monday 4th January 2021. The Government has explained that schools will be open for the children of “key workers” and “vulnerable pupils” only from Tuesday 5th January 2021 (please note - Breakfast Club and After School Club will still be available to the children in these groups). For the time being, school starting and closing times will remain the same as the well-established Autumn term routines. All children attending school will be expected to wear full school uniform.

School Closure and Communication

During the national closure, if any decisions are made by the Department for Education, we will communicate with parents/carers via the school website www.bernardgilpin.com Please do check the website regularly.

Home Learning

Home Learning will be provided for all other pupils who are not in school via Microsoft Teams, further information will be made available tomorrow, Tuesday 5th January 2021. All class teachers will be making contact with parents/carers throughout the day.

Free School Meals

Further information about the provision of meals for those children entitled to Free School Meals will be made available tomorrow via the school website.

Keeping safe

As a country, we all need to do what we can to stop the spread of Coronavirus. The Government has given clear guidance on household isolation, self-isolation and social distancing. The most recent scientific advice also says that if children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. Parents/carers should also do everything they can to ensure that children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. Children should observe the same social distancing principles as adults. It is vital that parents/carers do not congregate and observe social distancing whilst dropping off/collecting children.

On behalf of myself, the staff and Governors I would once again like to thank you for your continued support and co-operation. I wish you and your families good health in the weeks ahead.

Take care.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A. Bainbridge
Headteacher