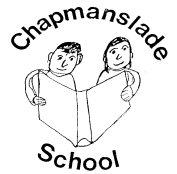




# **CHAPMANSLADE CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Learning together in a Christian community,  
nurturing and developing lively minds in a caring  
environment.**



4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents

It is with the greatest sadness that I am writing to you this evening to confirm that Chapmanslade School will be closed for face to face teaching from tomorrow in line with the law.

As you know, my team and I believe that school is the best place for primary aged children to be, and we have worked so hard to maintain safe, happy, face to face education for as many children as possible since March.

The Prime Minister said that this latest lockdown will last until at least February half term, and that only the children of key workers and vulnerable children may attend school.

I request that you do not bring your child to school tomorrow, even if you are a key worker, if you can safely keep your child at home. My team and I need time to read the reams of detail that will inevitably follow tonight's announcement, and to plan the best possible education for all our pupils for the next six weeks.

I must also ensure that I have taken every possible step to keep my staff safe. I need time to plan for that, to consult with staff, update our risk assessment and to present a plan to the governing board. I need time to canvas parents to understand exactly how many key workers' children we can expect to attend school, and to encourage the take-up of school places for our more vulnerable pupils. All of this will take us the whole of tomorrow at least.

I should be extremely grateful if you can keep your child/ren at home tomorrow. However, if you are a key worker and you cannot safely keep your child at home tomorrow, do not hesitate to come to school. I will be on the drive from 8:40 to welcome your child into school as usual. You do not need to phone or email first. This includes those pupils who are brought across to school by Kelly and the team at Busy Bees.

For all other parents, please do not phone or email the school tomorrow. We shall email a link to Microsoft Teams as soon as possible tomorrow morning so that your child/ren can access the high quality remote learning that we have in place. We shall send you our remote learning procedure tomorrow afternoon. By Wednesday, we shall be open to the key worker and vulnerable children who will attend school during this lockdown, and class emails will be operational again so that children learning remotely can contact their teachers. We hope to organise class Zoom calls again too, and will send out details as soon as we can.

Once again, I must stress that the law demands that schools close to almost all pupils because, as the Prime Minister said, schools act as vectors of transmission. Thankfully, children are highly unlikely to become seriously ill with Covid. However, all adults working in schools are potentially vulnerable to the new, highly transmissible, variant of the virus. Please help us to stay safe by keeping your child at home if you possibly can.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Chapman