

Thursday 19th March

Dear Parents and Carers

Urgent request for information

Thank you all for your kind communications and patience, as we plan for the weeks ahead. You will know there are more questions than answers at the moment and our request for information is our attempt to work out the onsite provision we will need to have available from Monday, next week. Some Bedford Borough schools are seeking to work together in hubs. At the moment given our more rural location and the fact our children come from more than one Local Authority, we are planning to put in place our own provision, for at least the next two weeks, and then review the situation at that point.

In light of the information shared by the government last night, we are making plans to ensure that we can teach those children who need to come into school.

We plan to keep parts of the Wootton Upper School accommodation open and close the Kimberley College, site. We plan to deliver the same learning to students on site as to that provided to students using our distance learning programme. Students who are working in school will be supervised and we will help them as much as we are able to do so, but the staff working with them will not be their usual class teachers. Our intention is that through the learning that takes place in school, and also through that delivered remotely, all our learners continue to receive high quality teaching.

This will be combined with resources on Show My Homework guiding independent learning.

At the moment we have not been able to speak to anybody in school transport in Central Bedfordshire to find out what its plans are for transporting the children of key workers and other children such as those with an Educational Health Care Plan or children with a social worker into school. We are working on the assumption that Local Authorities will continue to provide transport.

Today we are telephoning the parents and carers of all those children with an Education Health Care Plan, and all those children who have a social worker to find out whether their children will be learning from home or will be coming into school.

We also need to gather information regarding those children whose parents fall into the category of key worker. Since we do not store data on parent/carer occupation we need your help to let us know whether or not you are a key worker, and if so, whether it will help you if we provide support for your child/children at Wootton Upper School in the weeks ahead.

We had expected the precise list of key worker categories to be published this morning; this has not yet happened. Therefore, we are using the following categories, to plan how many staff we will need to have available from next Monday:

- ❖ NHS workers
- ❖ Front line emergency services [999] workers
- ❖ Care home workers, including those **employed** to provide care to individuals such as the elderly and vulnerable who live independently
- ❖ Workers in schools, colleges and nurseries
- ❖ Civil servants working for the government
- ❖ Delivery drivers (e.g. for supermarkets)

If your occupation is one of the above categories, please complete the survey below so that we can plan for student attendance on Monday.

I would ask that you complete this survey as a matter of urgency <https://forms.gle/hyCqg28kAPjP5gym7>

We will write to you again to confirm our arrangements for students working in school as soon as we can.

We will also send our usual update letter, once we have heard today's press conference from the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

Michael Gleeson
Executive Principal
Wootton Academy Trust

Wootton Academy Trust operates:
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