

St. Cedd's Church of England Primary School

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Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

At 5.15pm yesterday evening, the Secretary of State for Education gave a public statement that all state-funded schools in England would be closed from the end of the school day on Friday.

He also indicated that all GCSEs, AS and A-level examinations due to take place this Summer, have been suspended, and that students would be credited for their learning in some other way.

Having indicated that all schools would be closed, he then indicated that they would be expected to remain open for the children of key workers and for those in various vulnerable categories- providing a safe place and access to meals. We are expecting a definition of a 'key worker' tomorrow from the Cabinet Office. It will take time to determine the nature of the provision.

Although we have been anticipating such an announcement, and prepared for various scenarios, the limited details so far released raise considerably more questions than answers. You will all have your own legitimate concerns and queries. The Secretary of State gave no undertaking that schools would be expected to sustain a pattern of normal learning during the closure; rather that any available staff would be expected to support other frontline efforts. Our school response to this is yet to be determined.

I will be working today with the trust and all staff, to clarify as best we can what this announcement means for the school, for our pupils and for you. I anticipate providing more details later today.

Thank you for your continued support and patience in the meantime.

Yours sincerely,
Lyndsey Wood
Acting Headteacher

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