



Halebank C of E Primary School  
Heathview Road  
WIDNES  
Cheshire  
WA8 8UZ



Headteacher: Mr R Harley

Telephone number: 0151 425 5798

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### School Closure

As you will no doubt be aware, Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, has announced that all schools in the UK will close at the end of the week. In his statement, he said, 'We are announcing that schools, colleges and early years settings will be closed to everyone except children of key workers and vulnerable children from Monday, as part of the country's ongoing response to coronavirus'. I am writing to confirm that Halebank CE Primary School will be closing at the end of the week until further notice.

### Curriculum Tasks

As I informed you earlier in the week, the staff have worked hard to produce a series of activities for the children to complete during their time away from school. These can be found on our school website at [www.halebank.halton.sch.uk](http://www.halebank.halton.sch.uk) Please use the 'Classes' tab to locate your child's class and scroll down to the 'Files to download' link at the bottom of the page. Your child's activities can be found in a document called 'Curriculum Tasks: March 2020'. Please read the instructions carefully at the top of the document. Packs of resources (including paper/exercise books) have been prepared for each child to help with their home activities; these will be sent home before the end of the week. If your child is currently absent, please call into school to collect one.

There is sufficient work available for the next fortnight; while staff cannot possibly replicate the learning experiences that the children are offered in school, we hope that our pupils can still continue to learn during this period of uncertainty. Staff will update their pages at the start of each week after the Easter break to include a new programme of work. This will continue throughout the duration of the closure. If your child does not have internet access at home, please let us know so that we can prepare paper copies of work.

### Contacting School Staff

Should you need to make contact with your child's class teacher at any point during the closure, please use the class email address provided in the 'Curriculum Tasks' document. Class email addresses have been set up as follows:

<b>Class 1</b>	Mrs Griffin-Jones	Class1@halebank.halton.sch.uk
<b>Class 2</b>	Mrs Draper	Class2@halebank.halton.sch.uk
<b>Class 3</b>	Mrs Eley	Class3@halebank.halton.sch.uk
<b>Class 4</b>	Mrs Bennett	Class4@halebank.halton.sch.uk

### Childcare for Key Workers and Vulnerable Children

The school is required to provide childcare for pupils whose parents fall into the 'Key Workers' group. Examples of these workers include NHS staff, police and delivery drivers who need to be able to go to work. The full list of these workers is due to be published by the Cabinet Office later today.

If you think your job is one of those listed, please contact the school as a matter of urgency with your employment details so that we can ensure that provision is made for your child. If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a social worker, he/she may fall into the 'vulnerable children' category. If this is the case, the school will contact you before the end of the week to discuss provision for your child.

Please note that children who do not fall into these groups should remain at home with the appropriate care.

### **Free School Meals**

We have spoken to the School Meals Team about the provision of school meals. For those pupils who will still be attending school, a choice of a hot meal or packed lunch will be available. For those entitled to a free school meal, including pupils in Classes 1 and 2 who qualify for universal infant free school meals (UFSM), a packed lunch can be provided for your child (even if he/she is not in school). If you would like to arrange this, please complete and return the slip at the end of this letter. Your child's packed lunch will be available for collection from **12.00 pm** each day at the school office.

### **Concerns and Questions**

I am conscious that this news raises many questions about your child's education and what the future holds for schools. In truth, no one currently knows how long these measures will be in place; as a school staff we also have many unanswered questions.

We will do our utmost to provide what we can to support the families of Halebank during this time of unprecedented uncertainty. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 0151 425 5798 and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible.

In the meantime, I would like you to know that you and your children are in our thoughts and prayers. Look after yourselves and each other.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Harley  
Headteacher

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### **REQUEST FOR PACKED LUNCH**

Child's name: ..... Class: 1 2 3 4 (please circle)

Please provide a packed lunch for my child/ren.

Signed: .....

Parent/carer