

STAKEFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

East Ford Road,
Stakeford,
Choppington,
Northumberland, NE62 5TZ



Headteacher – Mrs J.A.Hall
Assistant Headteacher – Mrs S. Bewick
Tel: 01670 812369
www.stakeford.northumberland.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Carers,

School has now been closed to most pupils for two weeks and I am writing to keep you updated with our ongoing work. School will remain closed for most children until we receive further notice from the government and sadly no one knows how long this will be.

For Parents of Children Still Eligible To Attend

Since Monday 20th March, school has been open for children who have an EHCP, are open to Social Care or whose parents are Key Workers. During the Easter holiday period, school will only be open for the children of Key Workers only and will close completely from Good Friday to Easter Monday to observe the Easter weekend bank holidays. There will be no kitchen service during this two week period due to the numbers attending, so children will need to bring a packed lunch.

On the days when no Key Worker children need care, we will close the school to protect staff health and well-being and will only be contactable via the school Admin Email we will also require 24 hours' notice of any changes to care requirements. Please only use this care facility if you have no other option we feel that parents need to be aware that even for one child to attend, three staff members are required to break lockdown.

All remaining eligible children (as described in the second paragraph of this letter) are able to return to school on Monday 20th April and we will resume food provision for this group.

If you are eligible for this childcare and have not used it so far but need to after the Easter break, contact school via the admin email address and someone will get back to you.

Free School Meal Provision (FSM)

On Wednesday we contacted all parents who are eligible for FSM to organise how they will access the governments voucher scheme. Only those parents who are in receipt of certain benefits and have applied via the Local Authority are eligible. If you think you may now be eligible, you can find information on applications at <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Meals.aspx>. Any parents who apply and are accepted will be added to the arrangements outlined below.

The voucher scheme website is hosted by Edenred. From the week beginning 20th April 2020 and for every term time week during the closure, parents will receive a voucher worth £15 per week for each eligible child in their household.

Parents who have supplied their email address to school, will receive an email on 20th April with a 16 digit Ecode and a link to the redemption website. Further details regarding how Ecodes can be redeemed are available in the parent/carer FAQ document which has been uploaded to the school website letters page.

Parents who chose school to supply their voucher, we will download the voucher for your chosen supermarket and post it to you on 20th April. Details about this process can also be read in the FAQ document uploaded onto the letters page of the school website.



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Access To School Work Resources

Teaching staff have continued to prepare work for pupils for after the Easter break. With this letter you will have received a letter explaining how work has been set and individual log-ins for websites/programmes used. We are aware that some parents have still not accessed Dojo (Years 1-6) or School360 (EYFS) and this will now place their children at a significant disadvantage. Links are being updated on the school website class specific pages in the pupil area as well.

We are aware that some parents would prefer paper based work but this is not feasibly or logistically possible at this time without breaking lockdown conditions and putting staff, parents and children at unnecessary risk.

Your child's class teacher will continue to be contactable **during term time between 9:00 am and 3:15 pm Monday - Friday** via Dojo or School360 dependent on their year group (detailed above).

Safeguarding

During the lockdown and enforced closure period, the welfare of all our pupils is still our concern. We have written an addendum to our Safeguarding policy and this is available on the policies page of the school website.

Children will now be accessing learning online which in itself can pose safeguarding risks. Parents can access updated advice about online safety via the links provided in this policy which we will also put on the home page of the pupil area of the website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. This is a strange and difficult time for all of us but we will get through this and be back to normal at some point. Hopefully the lockdown conditions will achieve what they were meant to and this will be sooner rather than later. We are here for you, if not face to face, by telephone during the days we are open, email or messaging on dojo/school360 and are happy to help and support.

Take care and be safe

Yours sincerely

On behalf of all the staff and governors
J. A. Hall
Headteacher

Admin Email: admin@stakeford.northumberland.sch.uk

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