



# Homefield Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mr. Bradley Young  
Homefield Avenue, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth  
Norfolk, NR31 8NS  
Tel: 01493 661691  
Email: [office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@homefield.norfolk.sch.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers,

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Following on from our letter published yesterday and with the ever-changing situation beyond our control, it is with regret that we must close the school to all but the children of key workers and the children of vulnerable families until further notice, certainly at least the first week. Of course, this will be reviewed daily and you will be kept up-to-date via text message if there are any significant changes. We apologise for the lateness of this information and for the pending inconvenience this may cause, but much deliberation has taken place prior to this final decision being made by the Governors and Headteacher utilising several factors of evidence.

Over the weekend, including today, several meetings have been convened involving Unions and their Members, Headteachers, and the Local Authority and stemming from that Homefield and many other schools in Norfolk have been left with a shortage of staff, due to the increased risk of infection making appropriate levels of safety unobtainable at this moment in time. This lack of staffing capacity has meant we will be unable to open for all pupils safely, as had been previously hoped.

You will have received a link to update our key worker register which we have had running since March 2020 when all this began. Please ensure you have done this. As a result, we will then be sending out a key worker booking form, which will enable only pupils of key workers and vulnerable families to be booked into school when needed across this first week of Spring Term, in the first instance.

Of course, many of you will be anxious about whether or not to send your children in and equally concerned by the worsening situation in society as you protect yourselves and your own families. As a school, we will support you with your decision. All of our children will be able to access education, meaning we will educate those in school as well as those who remain at home remotely. We reiterate the need for all parents to have ensured they have signed their child up for Google Classroom (Years 1-6) and Tapestry (EYFS), which are the platforms we will be using as there will be no paper packs sent home. Remote learning will be steadily enhanced as further staff training is shared.

We will continue to operate the staggered drop off and collection procedures we currently have, as well as the booking procedures for breakfast and after-school clubs, but only for the children of key worker and vulnerable families.

We apologise again for this temporary closure, but it is simply unsafe to open at this moment in time with an increased risk of infection. As always, we appreciate your continued patience and understanding. If you have any questions, please contact the school office on the telephone number or email address above.

Yours sincerely,

Bradley Young  
Headteacher

Jonathan Earle  
Chair of Governors

