



**NEIGHT HILL  
HIMBLETON  
DROITWICH  
WORCS.  
WR9 7LE**

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**HEADTEACHER:** Mrs Gemma Martin

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Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to this evening's update from the government regarding the current COVID-19 outbreak, we are writing to inform you, in line with national decision, that school will be closed for the majority of pupils until further notice from 6pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

We write with mixed emotions, knowing fully the impact that closure will have on our families, yet understanding that this is a necessary step to reduce spread of infection as the situation escalates.

Staff have been working hard to prepare work packs for each class so that learning can continue during this period. These are in the form of task grids for English, Maths and enquiry work, with resource documents to support learning. All of these will be accessible via the school website from Monday. Please go to <https://himbleton.worcs.sch.uk/knowledge/curriculum/> where you will find a folder for each class. All children will be sent home with a new exercise book on Friday in which to complete their learning activities.

You will have seen from the announcement that schools have been asked by the government to consider how they might offer provision for children of key workers and vulnerable children if possible. Some of our children are in these categories. We have been exploring possible options of how we might make this possible with the current circumstances and staffing levels. Before finalising such arrangements, we would like to know whether this is a provision that our families would use if it were possible to put it in place. We are aware that some families may prefer to make other arrangements. If you are a key worker (please check government guidance relating to this – a full list is due to be published tomorrow, but we know that NHS workers, police and delivery drivers are likely to be included), then please inform Mrs Martin via phone, email ([head@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:head@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk)) or face-to-face, by Thursday at 5pm, if this is a provision that you would use if we could indeed implement it. Mrs Martin will be contacting other possibly eligible families by telephone on Thursday for individual discussions. We will then decide on the best plan for moving forward and aim to inform affected families by Friday lunchtime about any provision status moving forward.

Please know that despite school being closed, we are still here to support you as much as possible. Email will be the best initial form of contact during this period and then if required we can call you to discuss any matters. Don't hesitate to make contact if you need us or would like us to be aware of anything.

Please regularly check <https://himbleton.worcs.sch.uk/knowledge/letters-to-parents/> as this will be the primary place that updates from us are posted. In addition, the text service will be fully utilised, so please let us know by Friday if your details have changed or you have not been receiving text messages. We will inform you as soon as we find out more in this fast-evolving situation.

These are such unprecedented times and we would like to say thank you for the way in which the community has been pulling together in recent days and weeks and we know will continue to do so. It is during such times that we see our values truly in action.

Most importantly, we urge you to look after yourselves, your families and the wider community, staying as safe as possible and following issued guidance.

Kind regards,

Gemma Martin  
Headteacher

Claire Johnston  
Chair of Governors