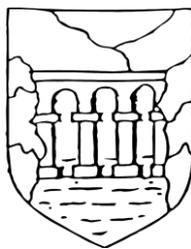


**Executive Headteacher:  
Mr B Towe**



**Calstock C.P. School  
Back Lane  
Calstock  
Cornwall  
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**Phone:  
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Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Coronavirus**

As you are all no doubt aware, school will close to the majority of pupils tomorrow at 3.15pm. I recognise that this will cause many mixed emotions and as both a headteacher and parent, I recognise the many questions and concerns it may raise. However, I have been struck over the last few days by the sense of togetherness, understanding and calm that has been demonstrated by our school community and I am confident that we will navigate this challenging time in positive partnership. Thank you for this.

### **Access to Learning**

You will understand that this is a fast moving and fluid situation and throughout, we will endeavour to work with you to support you and your children and to provide guidance and advice where appropriate. For all children, we will provide an enveloped pack of key activities for them to take home tomorrow. This will also be made available to our families who are already self-isolating. A covering letter from your child's teacher will be included in this. Details of how you can directly communicate with each teacher, will also be supplied.

In addition to this, we have created a 'Home Learning' tab on our school website ([www.calstock.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.calstock.cornwall.sch.uk)). This includes an overview to our planned strategy and has a link to separate webpages for each class. The class webpage will have a letter from your child's teacher and will also include a range of weblinks and extra ideas. This will be updated on a regular basis. This will be largely available by the end of school tomorrow.

### **Key Workers**

The Government have not yet provided information about the definition of key workers and we're now expecting this announcement tomorrow. However, I'd like to advise you of our arrangements with regard to this so that you are prepared, as and when an announcement is made. **Firstly, if you feel you may be eligible for this provision, we request that you email Mrs Hardy by email ([secretary@calstock.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@calstock.cornwall.sch.uk)), explaining your job role and the anticipated dates and times you would need this care during school hours.** At present, we are intending to open the school and this currently includes breakfast club. However, should there be any changes to these arrangements, you will be updated accordingly.

Further to the above, we will also be in touch with parents of pupils with Educational Health Care Plans (EHCP) to identify appropriate provision for them.

### **Free School Meals**

When the Government have clarified the arrangements for free school meals, we will update you with arrangements for the distribution of these. I can confirm, however, that the kitchen will remain open at present.

### **Information for families**

As previously communicated, we will continue to monitor the situation and follow the guidance published to us. Further guidance is available to families from the following dedicated helpline; Department for Education coronavirus helpline: Phone 0800 046 8687 (open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday)

Here is a web link to the most up to date NHS Guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Guidance to individuals on signs of illness are as follows:

**Anyone with a fever or persistent cough should stay at home for 14 days. This measure also extends to anyone who lives with someone displaying coronavirus symptoms. People who have to isolate themselves should ask others for help to deal with everyday necessities.**

The symptoms are:

- **A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)**
- **A new, continuous cough**

Of course, your child's academic progress is important and I recognise that you will want them to be as unaffected as possible by these challenging circumstances. However, I would like to reiterate that the prime consideration must be for their physical and emotional well-being. Many children will naturally be worried and confused by this situation and we want them to be as happy and unaffected as possible. Use this time as an opportunity to play, be active and spend quality time together. We don't expect you to become surrogate teachers, we just want you to be able to do what feels right, when it feels right. Inevitably, there will be worries and challenges and myself and all the staff will be available throughout to provide support and a listening ear should you need it. Please do get in touch via email and we will respond.

It goes without saying, that I wish you all the very best during this unprecedented time. Thank you once again for all kindness and support.

Very best wishes



Ben Towe

Executive Headteacher