

Learning delivered with

Text Linked Curriculum



Hillcrest Primary School

TLC

Headteacher: Mr Matthew Try
Hillcrest Primary School Hillcrest Downham Market Norfolk PE38 9ND
Telephone: 01366 388191 **E-mail:** office@hillcrest.norfolk.sch.uk **Fax:** 01366 384286

19th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

SCHOOL CLOSED

Following last night's announcement by Gavin Williamson, Secretary of State for Education, of mass school closures across England, Hillcrest Primary School will be closed from the end of the day on Friday 20th March.

The new school term is due to start on Monday 20th April. However, at present there is no end date to the government's enforced school closure and therefore we are unlikely to be back at school on that day.

As reported in previous letters, Hillcrest staff have been working behind the scenes to produce a paper-based pack which will provide your son/daughter with curriculum activities to carry out over the first five days of the closure.

From Monday 30th March, your child's class teacher will post work online via Google Classrooms for them to complete. This will also provide your child with the opportunity to return the completed work and to then receive feedback from their teacher. Contact with the teacher will continue through to Thursday 2nd April which would have been the last day before the Easter break and then continue from Monday 20th April.

Your child will have been sent home with their paper-based pack for week one along with the instructions and password required in order to access Google Classrooms. In the event that you do not have internet or computer access, the paper-based pack should provide enough resources to extend well beyond one week.

As has already been announced separately by the school, the final school day on Friday for Years 3 & 4 and any siblings of children in those years will end slightly earlier, at 3.15pm.

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Hillcrest Primary School will remain open during both term-time AND the Easter holidays for the children of those parents who the government have identified as a Key Worker. The definitions of Key Workers are as follows...

- NHS staff including Paramedics & GPs;
- Teachers & Nursery Nurses (based within schools and NOT childminders who work from home);
- Police officers;
- Prison Service staff;
- Social Workers;
- Firefighters;
- Ministry of Defence employees;
- Delivery drivers – including...
 - Home shopping deliveries;
 - Parcel delivery;
 - Royal Mail;
 - Lorry drivers.

If you fall within one of these categories, you are entitled to continue sending your children to school throughout this period of enforced closure, including school holidays, **UNLESS** staffing numbers are so seriously affected by Covid-19 that the school has to completely close.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ADULTS WITHIN THE HOUSEHOLD MUST FALL INTO THESE CATEGORIES TO QUALIFY. IF ONE PARENT/RESPONSIBLE ADULT DOES NOT FALL WITHIN THESE CATEGORIES THEN THE CHILD MUST STAY AT HOME.

However, we need to know exactly how many children we will be supporting from next Monday. ***Therefore, if you fall within one of the categories above, you MUST send the school an e-mail to office@hillcrest.norfolk.sch.uk to confirm that you would like to take up one of these places by 1pm on Friday 20th March. If a message is not received by this time, we will be unable to accommodate your child as staffing numbers will be based on the numbers responding.*** Your message also needs to state in which of the Key Worker categories you fall. **When dropping your child off on Monday 23rd March you will be asked to show ID to confirm who your employer is.**

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IF NO PROOF THAT YOU FALL UNDER ONE OF THESE KEY WORKER CATEGORIES CAN BE PROVIDED YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED INTO SCHOOL. WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM IS NOT ABUSED.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DROP YOUR CHILD OFF AT HILLCREST ON MONDAY WITHOUT HAVING EMAILED office@hillcrest.norfolk.sch.uk BY 1PM ON FRIDAY 20th MARCH AND CONFIRMING IN THE EMAIL WHICH OF THE KEY WORKER CATEGORIES YOU FALL UNDER.

For these children, school will still operate between 8.55am and 3.30pm and a school meal of some description, whether it be hot or cold, will still be provided.

We wish all of our Hillcrest families well during this difficult time and look forward to seeing the children return as soon as it is safely possible to do so.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Try