



# Langtoft Primary School

## School Closure – Update #3

Thursday 2 April 2020

The message is simple: **Stay at home. Save lives.**

**This update outlines the plans for the weeks beginning 6 and 13 April 2020. Please do not expect an Update next week.**

### 1. THANK YOU

As we enter the next stage of the pandemic, let us continue to be grateful to those medical professionals, scientists and NHS staff who are working courageously and with such commitment to keep all of us safe.

### 2. THE SCHOOL IS CLOSED\*

To limit the chance of the virus spreading, the government has asked parents to keep their children at home and has asked schools to **remain open\* only for those children who absolutely need to attend** because i) their parents' work is critical to the COVID-19 response ii) they are vulnerable children with an Education and Health Care Plan and/or a Social Worker.

The school will open for those children **only** during the Easter holidays. For those children only, the school will open from 0855 to 1515. Children should bring their own food and drink. This is only possible because staff are prepared to come to the school site and so I thank them most sincerely.

**To be clear, the school will not be open to any other children.** I apologise for the upset this causes to some parents whose employers are insisting that they continue work in jobs that are not critical to the COVID-19 response but the safety of everyone is paramount in this situation.

Children showing signs of symptoms and those children living in a household with others showing signs of symptoms should not attend, even if their parents are critical workers or they are vulnerable.

### 2. SCHOOL 'WORK'

Teachers have been asked **not** to provide suggestions for work that the children could complete during the Easter break so I shall not be sending anything to you tomorrow. They have prepared suggestions for the start of Term 5 and I shall email that to you via ParentMail on Friday 17 April 2020.

The ideas given are not in the same detail as the curriculum the children would have experienced if they were in school. It is important to understand this. The work sent home are suggestions from the teacher. It is typically revision of prior learning with some new elements here and there. It is a case of 'one size fits all' as it impossible to adapt the learning to meet the needs of every learner. I am hearing that some of you are being creative and adapting the work yourself. This is great!

You should expect the ideas to take a couple of hours each day to complete. Establishing a routine of breakfast, dress, first 'lesson', 'playtime' and 'second' lesson is helping many families to keep a sense of normality.

### 3. CONTACT WITH STAFF

One or two of you have requested that you speak with your child's class teacher or that a class 'group chat' is set up. I shall not be asking staff to do this. If you have a specific question, you may email it to me at [enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk) and I shall forward it to the class teacher if I consider it important enough for a personal response. I ask that you **do not attempt to contact staff through social media**. This is to provide staff, especially teachers, with time to complete tasks I have set them to do at home and, most importantly, to be able to look after their own children and families. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

### 4. INFORMING THE SCHOOL THAT YOU NEED CHILDCARE

As detailed in Update #2 last week, if you need to use the school for childcare because you are worker critical to the COVID-19 response and you have no other option, you must now email me using the school's email address: [enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk), stating:

- i) your child/ren's names
- ii) which sessions you require (morning and/or afternoon) on which days
- iii) the nature of your critical work

Please send your email **before and no later than 11:30 a.m. the day before** you need the school to be open for your child. For example, if you need to work on Thursday, you must have emailed by 11:30 a.m. of the morning of Wednesday. If you know in advance what your work pattern will be then please let me know for the week ahead. That will help me to plan.

If parents do not need childcare for their critical work, I will close the school that day.

### 5. STAY CONNECTED

I have been using ParentMail to keep you up-to-date. I shall continue with this method. The school website will be updated weekly: it will only contain information you have already been sent on ParentMail.

Email is the best way to contact me because I can reply from home as well as school. Please do not expect a reply after 8:00pm or before 9:00am.

We shall telephone twice a week those families identified as vulnerable to 'check in' with them.