



# The Dales Federation of Primary Schools

*'I pray that you may have your roots and foundation in love' Ephesians 3, V17*

Telephone: 01335-370292/360393  
**Headteacher: Mrs N. Foulds**  
**Chair of Governors: Mrs A. Cresswell**



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

Dear Parents and Families,

The most recent weeks have been unprecedented and I want to start by thanking you all for your care and support. Our staff have felt supported and they are truly dedicated to all of the children within our care.

Due to the recent announcement from the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson that all UK schools must close due to the spread of Coronavirus, we are writing to officially notify you of both Bradley CE and Brailsford CE Primary School's closure as of 3:30pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

This is an extremely difficult situation which impacts us all, but we believe that the closure of schools is absolutely necessary to ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of everyone and prevent further spread of the virus.

The government has asked parents to **keep their children at home, wherever possible**, and asked schools and settings to remain open only for those children who **absolutely need to attend**. **If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.**

Schools and settings are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the link below. Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And **every child who can be safely cared for at home should be – even if you do meet the criteria.**

For those parents who **BOTH** meet the criteria, or for those who have an EHCP or a social worker, **and have no safe way of caring for their child at home**, you will be able to bring your child to BRAILSFORD school, where childcare will be provided. I want to stress that this will be **childcare only – there will be no lessons or any type of formal education on offer**. Opening times will be 9am – 3:30pm Monday to Friday. We are also able to offer Breakfast club from 7:45am at a charge of £5 per child, again for the pupils who meet the criteria. **Bradley school will be closed to all pupils.**

If you meet the criteria, **and have no other option for childcare** and wish to access our skeleton childcare provision in the coming weeks please call either school **by 2pm today. Only those children who have an offer should attend school.**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision)

Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.

For those children who will not be attending school, you will have been given information regarding Google Classroom, and how to access it. Additionally, teachers have provided further resources, which the children have already/will be bringing home with them. If you are currently self-isolating, your child's resource pack can be collected from Brailsford reception from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, whenever you are able. Teachers will continue to update Google Classroom throughout the closure.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the closure, **please do not visit the school as most staff will be working remotely**, but contact us via telephone, email or Dojo as appropriate. Information will be updated regularly on the school websites. If you have recently changed your telephone number or email, please make sure the school are updated immediately.

At this incredibly difficult time, we ask that you act responsibly and work with us to provide the support for the national effort. Whilst ever we have enough staff to open safely, we will be here for those of you who have no other option. We know also that you will understand our duty of care to our staff, a number of whom are already absent from work, and who also have vulnerable adults in their families – just as many of you may have. Until then, we would like to offer our very best wishes and hope that anybody affected by this virus makes a speedy recovery.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicola Foulds." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Nicola Foulds

Executive Headteacher

