



We Can And We Will
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Coronavirus: East Dene Primary School Closure

I am writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school to children from Tuesday 5th January 2021 until after February half term (Monday 22nd February 2021).**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of critical workers and for those children classed as vulnerable. Critical workers include health and social care workers, all NHS employees, category one responders (Category one are workers at the core of the response to most emergencies - the emergency services, local authorities, NHS bodies) and those working in education and childcare as well as those working in key public services and those who work in food and other necessary goods (production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery) Also classed as critical workers are those who work in the utility services e.g. oil, gas, electricity and water. Those working in postal services, waste disposal and transport services.

If you believe you fall into the category of a critical worker or that your child is vulnerable and you would like your child to continue accessing school provision then please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible via the Class Dojo App or phone the school office on 01709 512202 tomorrow morning.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Tuesday 5th January 2021 onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure – as you may have heard in the news – so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We ask that you check Class Dojo regularly, follow Twitter and the school website for updates.

What we'll continue doing while your child is at home

Your child's learning is of the utmost importance to us and we will continue to help your child to learn. Online learning will be in place as from Tuesday 5th January 2021 via your child's Class Dojo account and the online portal via the school website (<https://eastdene.org>). The online learning will include access to all subjects alongside teaching videos and a weekly timetable. If you require an electronic device to support with home learning then please contact your child's class teacher. If you experience any difficulties with any of the above please contact your child's class teacher or contact the school office on: 01709 512202.

If you need to contact the school for any reason during this period of closure, you can do so by emailing us at enquiries@eastdene.org Alternatively, you can call us on the usual school number or contact your child's class teacher via the Class Dojo App. We will continue to keep you informed during the closure and update you with any new information about our re-opening date.

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from the government scheme.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Please take care and stay safe

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. M. Ridge".

Mrs. L Ridge

Headteacher
