



**Mr Neil Clark**  
**Head Teacher**  
**Front Street**  
**Appleton Wiske**  
**Northallerton**  
**DL6 2AA**  
**Tel: 01609 881398**

## **Appleton Wiske Community Primary School**

[admin@appletonwiske.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@appletonwiske.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
[www.appletonwiske.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.appletonwiske.n-yorks.sch.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been an emotional day. Our children and staff are really feeling the impact of the school closing. The realisation is setting in for the children that they will not be learning and socialising with friends at school for the foreseeable future. Thank you for all your kind words which I have passed onto the staff who are very grateful for your support. I am extremely fortunate to have such a strong team around me. I didn't need this week to remind me of this but it is an opportune moment to acknowledge the amazing job that the staff do for our pupils.

The school will remain 'open' for a small number of pupils whose parents are key workers. Let me take this opportunity to thank those members of our school community who are working in challenging circumstances to keep our country operating in these unprecedented times. We are all indebted to you. If you are yet to register your child for school next week, please contact us so we can arrange for you to complete the necessary paperwork. Please follow this important advice from the Department for Education when considering whether to bring your child to school: "If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be." I cannot stress this enough. Where possible, your children should not be mixing with others. The service provided by schools from next week is similar to that of childcare; the children will not be receiving their usual quality of education. Please ensure your child wears a full school uniform in order to maintain our high standards. Children who are entitled to free school meals will continue to receive this service and transport arrangements will continue until we are informed otherwise.

I want to reassure you that, depending on individual circumstances, our staff will be in school. I will therefore be available to talk to any of you if you need any advice or have any queries. The staff have done a superb job getting packs of homework out to you and our intention is to continue providing learning opportunities at home. I will have a clearer idea of how we will proceed with such arrangements next week; I am sure you can understand that we have been working to a very tight timescale and still have a lot to consider.

The Governing Body held a video conference call last night and it goes without saying that every member is committed to supporting the school in its work. We will be working closely with the Local Authority to consider the long term plan and how this will affect our school community.

I will write to you next week with more information. Until then, look after yourselves and your loved ones.

Yours faithfully

Head Teacher