



19th March 2020

SCHOOL CLOSURE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may have seen, the Prime Minister has now announced that schools are to close across the country, as part of the Government's plan to delay the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Our schools (**The Alton School, Belleville Primary School, Belleville Wix Academy and Churchfields Primary School**) will close at **the end of the day on Friday 20th March 2020** for most children.

Children of key workers and some "vulnerable children" will be identified and will still be able to access a provision.

Overleaf, please find some further information in four parts:

- Part one: home learning
- Part two: provision for the children of key workers
- Part three: vulnerable children
- Part four: free school meal entitlement.

Please read this information carefully.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support to our schools so far. I would also like to thank all of you who work in front line services - we are all very appreciative of what you do to help us all. I would also like to thank our staff team. They have been working extremely hard under challenging circumstances to continue to provide an excellent provision for your children and plan a provision for when we close. We are very fortunate to have such motivated people serving your children and our community.

Support for you and your family: We recognise that parents and carers may have a tough time ahead, managing many roles as well as looking after their own health. At www.q1e.co.uk we have published some resources, which we hope will support you and your families with health and wellbeing.

If you think you have symptoms: If you or members of your family think you may have symptoms of Coronavirus (a high temperature or a new, continuous cough), please follow NHS advice to stay at home. Please check <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for more information.

Re-opening: We will contact you again once we know when we are likely to re-open. Please be assured that we will stay up-to-date on the latest guidance from the Government, the NHS and Public Health England.

This is an exceptional situation and we are extremely grateful to you for all your support and for working with us. We wish you and your children and families all the very best. I hope and pray that you and your families all remain healthy and that we will see you back in our schools in the not too distant future.

Yours,

John Grove
Executive Headteacher
Quality First Education Trust

KEY INFORMATION: WHAT TO DO NEXT

PART ONE: HOME LEARNING WHILE SCHOOL IS CLOSED

Home learning: Our team has worked hard over recent days to prepare work for your children, in case of school closure. While the schools are closed, we will be using a new Quality First Education Trust website to share this home learning. The website is at www.q1e.co.uk

We have provided work for children in each year group to do at home. Weekly home learning sheets set out a series of activities for English, Maths and the wider curriculum. There are also some resources to support those children with additional needs. Children have been told that there is work to complete at home, so please do look at this. To access the home learning and guidance:

1. Go to the website www.q1e.co.uk
2. Click on home learning to read the guidance
3. Click on the appropriate year group for your child
4. Go to Week 1 and click on each subject (English, Maths, Curriculum) to see the week's learning.

The website will be updated every week, with a new week's learning (week 2, week 3 etc).

PART TWO: THE CHILDREN OF KEY WORKERS

The Government has announced that provision will still be available for the children of key workers. As a trust we are totally supportive of the need to support our key workers, so that they can continue their vital role at this challenging time. At the time of writing, the government has not defined the group but we believe it will include NHS workers, the police, the fire service and some people who work in food and essential deliveries. A further definition is expected from the Government soon.

Please contact the school as soon as possible if you believe you are in this category, and you would like your children to access provision during the closure period. Please contact us (by coming to the school office, phoning the school, or emailing enquiries@bellevilleschool.org) and provide:

- Your name (parent or carer), your child's name, class and school
- Confirmation that you believe you are in the key worker category (we will require further verification in due course and will contact you about this. However, if you are able to provide information now, such as your work ID, that will help the process).

PART THREE: VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The Government has announced that provision will still be available for vulnerable children. At the time of writing, the Government has not defined the group but we believe it will include those with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and those who have a social worker. Further definition may be provided soon.

Please contact the school as soon as possible if you believe your child is in the vulnerable category and you would like your child to access provision during the closure period. Please contact us (by coming to the school office, phoning the school, or emailing enquiries@bellevilleschool.org) and provide:

- Your name (parent or carer) and your child's name, class and school
- Confirmation that you believe your child is in the vulnerable category.

PART FOUR: FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT

Many of our children are entitled to free school meals. You will know if your child has this entitlement. If your child is to access childcare provision at one of our schools during this time, then he or she will be provided with a school meal. If, however, your child is to be **at home**, we will seek to provide you with **meal vouchers** for your child. While we cannot yet share the exact details, we do need to know whether you wish to receive meal vouchers.

If you are in this category and you would like to receive the meal vouchers to which you are entitled, please contact the school and provide:

- Your name (parent or carer), your child's name, class and school
- Confirmation that your child will not be in school and you would like to receive meal vouchers.