



# Seaton Primary School

*"Caring now, for the future of our community, those in need, our lifestyles, one another, our education and the future itself"*

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Headteacher: Nic George

## SCHOOL CLOSURE

4.1.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following a consultation with school staff which began last night and continued this morning, and in discussion with school governors, we have made the decision **to close** Seaton Primary School. This is with the intention of **re-opening on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January for all pupils**. The school **remains open for children of key workers and those deemed vulnerable**, as sufficient staff are able to attend to teach our key worker and vulnerable pupils. I am sure that you are aware that many of the major teaching and support staff unions have been considering the safe opening of schools from January 4<sup>th</sup>. Consequently, the major teaching unions such as the NEU and UNISON, have advised their members not to work in school if it is fully open to all pupils. They believe that this would contravene S44 of the Employment Right Act 1996 due to the dangers posed by the new, prolific strain of Covid 19.

I can only apologise for the disruption this may cause you and the decision to close the school has *not* been taken lightly at all. Please understand that throughout this pandemic we have held the safety and well-being of staff, parents and children at the heart of all decisions we have made. I believe that as a school community we have acted with professionalism, integrity and compassion throughout.

Learning will now take place remotely from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Your teachers will be in contact to confirm arrangements so that your children can resume their education, working from home. Further training of staff will take place today and tomorrow so live lessons can be incorporated each day. Pupils that receive remote lessons will have the same learning opportunities as those who can attend school still.

Parents/Carers of vulnerable pupils will be contacted directly today and those of key workers will be asked to complete a parentmail form to request a place, you will receive this form today. Currently we want to limit pupil numbers in school to a very minimum, so key workers children should only attend when their parents are at work.

Thank you once again for your support and understanding during these very testing times. I will keep you updated as things progress.

Best Wishes,

*Nic George*

**Headteacher**

**Seaton Primary School**

