



*The Best That We Can Be*  
**Devonshire Primary Academy**

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I'm sure you're aware the Prime Minister has announced that all schools will close from 3:15pm today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, until further notice. Clearly the Government are concerned about the impact that school closures may have on vulnerable children and frontline services. As such, they have decided to continue to make school places available for: children who have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), children in care, families supported by a social worker and children of parents who are key workers.

As you will be aware, we have sent out a survey for parents to complete to indicate whether or not they will require a place for their child under the key worker guidelines. We have reviewed this survey to help identify those children for whom we can offer a place from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. This afternoon we will message parents directly to confirm they have a place. We will also message those parents whose child will not be allocated a place, so that all parents are clear about the arrangements from Monday. (If you are told your child does not have a place and you believe your child is eligible for a place, you must contact school immediately.)

**Children allocated a place in school from Monday**

Please can all children who have been allocated a place come into school through the double doors in the playground opposite the garden area. This will be at the normal time of 8.40am – please ensure your child is on time. We will need to register the children as they arrive to ensure that those children allocated places are present (please do not send your child to school if they have not been allocated a place). The children will exit the school through the same doors at the end of the day – 3.10pm. In terms of school uniform, we have decided to relax school uniform expectations and will permit non-school uniform. We are, however, requesting that children wear or bring a pair of trainers (please ensure all items are clearly named) to enable them to take part in PE activities.

Children who are allocated a school place and normally have a free school dinner, will continue to be offered a school meal each day. Those who normally pay for their child to have a school dinner, should continue to do so on [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com). Children who are allocated a school place and normally have a packed lunch should bring this in as usual.

**Children not allocated a place in school from Monday**

As you will be already aware, our teachers have been preparing online learning for your children whilst we are closed. A reminder; our website has individual links to home learning for each year group. These can be found under the curriculum tab: <https://www.devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk/home-learning-covid-19-coronavirus-outbreak/>. In addition to this, teachers have set up online learning activities at 'Learning by Questions' and 'ClassDojo'. Please encourage your children to check these sites regularly for updates.

Best wishes to all of you at this challenging time.

*D.P. Simm*

Mr D.P. Simm  
Headteacher