



Est 1972

Birchensale Middle School

Bridley Moor Road, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 6HT

Tel: 01527 68430 / Fax: 01527 584190

Email: enquiries@birchensale.worcs.sch.uk / Web: birchensale.worcs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Tim Jones

Dear Parents/Carers

COVID – 19 Update – 24/03/20

Last night the Government announced strict new curbs on life in the UK to tackle the spread of coronavirus. **The country is now in lockdown after the World Health Organisation's warning on the 'accelerating' pandemic.** The Prime Minister has now changed from issuing advice to giving an order. **"At this moment of national emergency... stay at home."**

As of today, people must only leave their house for one of four reasons.

- to exercise once a day
- to travel to and from work where "absolutely necessary", when your work is "absolutely essential in the fight against coronavirus"
- to shop for essential items
- to fulfil any medical or care needs.

These restrictions will be in place for at least three weeks and police will have the power to enforce them, including through fines. Any essential key workers leaving their homes, **MUST** carry identification at all times.

Today, Birchensale Middle School remains available for the children of key workers, however, we have now been forced to reduce staffing levels to an absolute minimum and very shortly it will no longer remain possible for the school to stay open in any capacity. **As such the Government has now advised us, to tell parents, to immediately make alternative arrangements.**

I realise that this information is different to previous instructions, but we are now at a stage where Government orders are changing on a daily basis. **I now need any parent that thinks they will still need to send their child to Birchensale Middle School to contact me today by phone on 01527 68430 to discuss the arrangements.** After today an alternative setting may need to be put in place for all children of schools in the surrounding area.

Thank you again for your continued support; we will continue to communicate with you as the situation develops.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brazier
Headteacher Designate

