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Date: Friday, 20 March 2020



### Education and Families

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Dear Parents/Carers

### INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM NLC – FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 @ 2:56PM

I have been asked to forward the message below to all Parents/Carers from Gerard McLaughlin, Head of Education (North).

#### Message to Parents/Carers:

Parents and carers are advised that North Lanarkshire Council Communications team are preparing to release information as soon as possible through its normal communication channels regarding the closure of schools to pupils from today. This will include

- Arrangements for children of key workers (including clarification of who Key Workers are)
- Clarification of arrangements for S4-S6 pupils for SQA accreditation purposes
- Arrangements for those children requiring free school meals from Monday onwards
- Arrangements for children with additional support needs from Monday

Further information will be available through your school's normal communication channels from Monday onwards.

Gerard J. McLaughlin  
Head of Education (North)  
Education and Families  
Civic Centre,  
Motherwell

As you can see, our school and nursery class will be open from Monday, **but only for those children who are to be identified in a further communication which will be sent out by North Lanarkshire Council**, i.e., Keyworkers. Can I suggest that you keep a close eye on NLC Social Media and the website [www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/coronavirus) where the list of key workers will be published?



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I have no further information regarding arrangements for provision for children who require a free school meal, but this will be provided along with the information mentioned previously via NLC social media.

As soon as I have this information, I will also circulate it through the various channels (i.e. our app, webpage and social media platforms).

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your kindness, generosity and community spirit during what has been (and will continue to be) a very challenging and fast-evolving time. The comments in person, on the phone and on our social media have been so heartening and the kind treats sent into the staffroom have been much appreciated! Thank you all!

Today was a surreal day and the feeling amongst staff and children was tangible. Many of the children were aware that this could be the last time we were together for some time. Our Primary 7 children were sad to be leaving under such a cloud, but we have reassured them that we will most certainly be celebrating with them sometime in the near future, when we can mark their time with us in a happy and fitting celebration, together with their families.

Many of our children were not with us today and I would like to take this opportunity to let them know that they are not far from our thoughts and that we will be keeping in touch with them in the weeks ahead.

I want to pay tribute to our staff team, who have stayed positive and come together in these challenging times. Of course, I have come to expect nothing less as this has always been my experience of them. Thank you sincerely to all of our Teachers, Support Staff, Clerical Staff, Janitorial, Cleaning and Catering Staffs for the excellent work and sterling commitment you give day and daily. Thanks also to our two chaplains for their support and prayers.

It goes without saying, but is worth mentioning, that we appreciate our families and our children and we hope that all of you stay healthy and stick together. Obviously, over the next weeks, we will have staff in school and so, if you need any kind of help or support, please contact us and we will do anything we can to help you.

With renewed prayers and good wishes,

**Mr K. Thomas**  
**Head Teacher**