



**Headteacher: Mr D. Williams**  
Burton Wood • Weobley  
Hereford • HR4 8ST

**Tel: 01544 318159 • Fax: 01544 312900**  
admin@weobleyhigh.hereford.sch.uk

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear parent / carer,

I just wanted to write you to keep you up to speed with developments. It has been an incredibly hectic few days as we have rapidly transformed ourselves into an emergency childcare provision as well as endeavouring to deliver lessons online using our remote access system. Thank you so much for your messages of support at this time; it's good to know that you appreciate all we are doing.

Firstly just to make you aware of how we are now operating. From Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, the high school will be closed. We will be combining staff and pupils at Weobley Primary School to ensure that we can continue to provide a support facility for our critical key workers. In line with the lockdown guidance, we will be operating with very minimal staff and so please use email as the default mode of communication to both schools from now on and until the closure ends. It may well be that the offices do not have staff to answer the 'phones and staff will be primarily supervising the children.

Secondly, I'm sure you are aware that our remote access system has been under a great deal of strain. As I write this, it is operating well however it then slows right down at certain times of day when lots of people attempt to log on at once. This is frustrating as we worked incredibly hard last week and over the weekend to have this up and running; the tests last week went smoothly. We are aware that this has been an issue nationally due to broadband providers becoming overwhelmed. Nevertheless we are working hard to resolve this and ask for your patience. We have also asked staff to rely more on email than requiring pupils to access the shared area at this time to minimise pressure on the broadband connection. We are also working on a contingency plan and will let you know if this is needed.

For now, please ask the children to continue to use remote access and if it is slow, then to take a break and try again after a while. I would also recommend that you look at the growing number of resources which have become free to families during this period as well as resources such as those provided by the BBC. Of course, I would also highly recommend regular reading, playing games and spending time on family-based activities; this is a unique time and will be remembered by your children for the rest of their lives!

Finally, a huge thank you to you all. Things are changing daily and we have no idea currently when we will be open again. As you will know, schools have been put in an incredibly challenging position recently however my job has been made significantly easier by the support of the parents and the community as well as the absolutely outstanding staff team we have here.

Please take care everyone!

Yours sincerely,

Dean Williams