

# King Athelstan Primary School

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www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk



Headteacher: Emily Newton

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19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

## School Closure

As you are aware, the Government has made the decision to close schools for most children from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until further notice.

We are sending this letter to **all** families and we will contact you separately about those who are exceptions to the closure, once we have more information.

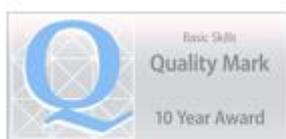
This is a very challenging time for everyone and we ask you to prioritise your family's physical and mental well-being. While you are away from school, spend family time together - play board games, do a puzzle, share stories, do some physical activity either inside or outside if you have a garden, watch films or other educational programmes (e.g. David Attenborough's Seven Worlds, One Planet) as a family, do some art/craft/junk modelling, or make a cake/meal together. Calmness, care and kindness have to be the top of everyone's list. Give each other some space at times and allow quiet times.

In this letter, we have included some suggestions of learning activities to keep children occupied. Please do not make this an additional pressure on your family- perhaps do an hour or two each day if that works for you. We will not be checking how much work is completed. If you make things (e.g. Thinker's Project) please send a photo of it to the school admin address ([admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org)) and we will endeavour to share them on the school website or via other communication methods.

The school will keep in regular contact with you during the closure. This will mainly be by email and through the website. Please expect an update at least weekly and please only contact us via email if it is really urgent as we will be trying to manage large numbers of messages with fewer staff. We do not know any more than you, so will not be able to answer anything that is not already in the public domain.

We have provided each child with a pen/pencil and an exercise book in which they can complete work. The exercise book has their logins for the online learning platforms (except Nursery) stuck inside in case they have been mislaid. We have also given them some reading books - please ensure these are kept safe so that they can be returned to school when we re-open.

With this letter, you will find our Home Learning Policy, which has lots of suggested activities that can be carried out at home, as well as links to many websites that the children can access on devices during their time away from school. This information is also on the school website (<http://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/>) under the Curriculum section, along with the Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) by year group. We have also added a grid of different forms of writing as options for things to do each day.



In the Curriculum section of the website there are workshop presentations which have letter formations and phonics RWI sound mats under English, and J2e workshop slides under Mathematics to help you support your child.

*Please be aware that we will not be able to provide detailed feedback on home learning; we will happily celebrate it on our return.*

Please reassure children that we are looking forward to a return to school as soon as we are able. We wish you all the very best as we move into this unusual period. Stay safe and please follow all Government and health advice. We have added some useful websites at the end of this letter.

We will continue to contact parents/carers by email with any updates, and the school website will post messages, too: <http://www.kingathelstan.kingston.sch.uk/> . Please check these regularly.

Thank you for all your fantastic support of the school over the past weeks.



Emily Newton  
Headteacher

- [Compassionate Neighbours](#) - Compassionate Neighbours are trained volunteers offering friendship and listening. Website gives information worldwide compassionate action in the present coronavirus climate and ways to get in touch for connecting and friendship.
- [Samaritans](#) - Samaritans Kingston - Phone: 116 123 - free from any phone or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)  
24 hours Samaritans offer emotional support for anyone struggling to cope
- [Family Lives](#) - Family lives have a free help line that offers support and advice on any aspect of parenting and family life - they have volunteers working from home 9am-9pm Mon-Fri and 10am-3pm Sat/Sun 0808 800 2222
- [Childline](#) - Comforts, advises and protects children 24 hours a day and offers free confidential counselling. Phone 0800 1111 (24 hours) Chat 1-2-1 with a counsellor online  
<https://www.childline.org.uk/>
- [Kingston Foodbanks](#) - 5 local sites offering food every weekday. Telephone 0208 391 1100 School and Children's Centre are able to issue vouchers
- [Young Minds](#) - Online and helpline support for anyone worried about the emotional well-being or mental health of a young person aged 0-25 tel:0808-802-5544
- [NSPCC](#) - Charity to protect children. Offers advice and a helpline 0808 800 5000  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- [Welcare](#) - Welcare is a charity working with families and children offering practical and emotional support [welcare.org.uk](http://welcare.org.uk)
- [Home-Start](#) - Home Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times. [info@home-start.org.uk](mailto:info@home-start.org.uk)
- [Single Point of Access \(SPA\)](#) - 020 8547 5008 To report anything about a child, young person or parent/carer that needs support in some way
- [Hygiene Bank](#) - ensures those living in poverty have access to the basics  
<https://thehygienebank.com/>