

Wren's Nest Primary School



Dear Parents,

What a time we find ourselves all in! However, I wanted to write to you with some happier news. On Wednesday this week, interviews for the permanent Head teacher position at Wren's Nest took place. I am delighted to say that the Governors have appointed me and I am now the official Head teacher at Wren's Nest. I am truly honoured and privileged to now be able to say this. I will continue to do my best for both you and your child within the Wren's Nest community.

The Local Authority have issued the following letter regarding school closure from this evening - Friday 20th March. Please read it carefully.

Children's Services
3-5 St James's Road, Dudley, DY1 1HZ
Tel: (01384) 810229
www.dudley.gov.uk



Our Ref:

Please ask for:

Direct Line: 81

Dudley School Closures – Covid-19 Update

Messages for Mainstream School and Academies

Following the announcement by the government on **Wednesday 18th March 2020**, Dudley schools will be closing at the end of the school day today, **Friday 20th March**.

Some schools will remain open for pupils who are the children of key workers from **Monday 23rd March or Wednesday 25th March**. Your school will notify you. **The decision to open on either day is at the schools discretion and will be dependent on staffing levels and their ability to be able to open the school safely.**

Please see this guidance from the government to clarify whether you or your partner are a "key worker" under the current directive:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

For children who are classed as "vulnerable," schools will also remain open. Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker involvement with the family and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans. Children who have social worker involvement include children in need, children who have a child protection plan and those who are looked after by the local authority.

Please note: the government has specifically stated in their guidance to schools that '**parents are to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked that schools are to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.**'

The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

Thank you for your co-operation at this very difficult and challenging time.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'C. Knowles'.

Catherine Knowles
Interim Director of Childrens Services

As you will be aware we have never chosen to close school - even when we have had lots of snow! We are passionate about children being in school every day and giving them the best education. However, on this very difficult occasion, we have had close school to enable us to keep children, families and staff safe and well. This will also support the protection of the wider community.

As soon as we know of any additional information regarding the current situation, we will let you know via Parent Hub and the school website. If you have any queries or questions, please email us via info@wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk.

Please take care - keep washing those hands and look after each other.

Very best wishes to you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sparks' with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

Mrs Sarah Parkes

Headteacher (I am very pleased to be able to write this for the first time!)