



19th March 2020

Government Enforced Closure

Dear Parents/Carers,

As of Friday 20th March, school will be closed until further notice. The government have now announced blanket closures of all schools, and we would like to inform you about how we will communicate with you and what work our teachers have set for the next two weeks leading up to and during the Easter holidays. Please keep this letter somewhere safe so that you can refer back to it!

A separate letter will be sent about key worker children/vulnerable children and those who can attend school on Monday.

What work will be set for my child?

As previously communicated with you, at Gillibrand, the teachers will be setting a lot of home learning using the Seesaw app that all children and parents are now able to log into. Year 6 will also have some CGP SATs revision books which they can complete at home. Unless children are ill, we do expect that they complete the work set by their teacher and the class teachers will be monitoring this daily, marking work and responding to the children via Seesaw. In this initial phase, the teachers will set work for the final two weeks of term, and we have signposted you to many extra activities, which you can complete in addition, should you wish to do so.

We will also use the class blogs to set writing and blogging challenges and involve the children in commenting on each other's work. Again, this is something the children are familiar with and something they enjoy doing. Teachers will then share their work via the class Twitter pages.

On each class page there will also be a diary section where children can talk about what they have been up to with their friends in a safe and secure online environment.

There will also be access to a number of home learning packs and websites for parents via the school website- just go to <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/curriculum/home-learning>

Additional Online Learning -Apps and Programs Children are familiar with and that can be accessed at home to support their learning

1. Times Table Rockstars – Year 1 -Year 6. This can be accessed anytime. The teachers will set the relevant times tables for your child to practice.
2. Phonics Play-Phonic activities for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
3. Teach Your Monster to Read-Reception Year 1 and Year 2
4. Read Theory-Year 5 and Year 6
5. LBQ-KS2 children
6. Reading Realm app

What can I do if they complete the work that is set?

- Online educational publishers, [Twinkl](https://www.twinkl.com), have offered parents free access to all its resources for a month to support continued learning at home. All you need to do is enter UKTWINKLHELPS to get started.
- Parents should be able to access free Home Learning Packs for each primary year group. Each pack contains resources to help with distance learning:



- EYFS <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/l/xrh0w>
- KS1 <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/l/qznc0>
- KS2 <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/l/1bm381>
- For children who love science, the [Children's University of Manchester](#) website is an excellent interactive resource in which your child can browse a number of different science topics, which have a quiz at the end of each unit.
- [BBC Bitesize](#) is an excellent online resource that provides students help with revision and learning. Here you will find a number of free videos, step-by-step guides, activities and quizzes by level and subject on every subject for students aged from three to 16 and over.
- For those of you who enjoy making crafts with your child at home, [Activity Village](#) is a great resource for ideas and templates to develop creativity at home.
- Go for some virtual tours around some museums in different parts of the world <https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>
- **Spelling Shed** <https://www.spellingshed.com>
- **Maths Shed** <https://www.mathshed.com>
- **Picture News** <https://www.picture-news.co.uk>

What if I need to contact my teacher/the school?

Whilst we are closed, should you have any questions or queries, please email them to **head@gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk** This is my school email address, which I will be checking every day. I will ensure that any queries are shared with the relevant teacher and will email you back as soon as I can. Or alternatively contact your child's class teacher via Class Dojo.

Throughout the closure, the school will be following all government guidelines, and it would be helpful if you could avoid using this email for anything other than emergencies or queries relating to your child's work.

How will my school contact me?

All letters will go on the school website under the News Section-Updates and posts will be shared on the school Twitter page, along with text messages sent via My School App. We will endeavour to keep you informed of every step we take, in line with the government guidelines.

We all know that this is a challenging and unprecedented situation – each school has to follow their own procedures, and I would like to thank you all for your patience and support during this difficult period!

Please look after each other and others in our community, especially those who may need our support more than ever at this time and please stay safe.

I would like to thank all the children, staff and parents for being amazing during the last few weeks and it is at times like this that I am reminded of what a wonderful school Gillibrand is and what an amazing community we have behind us.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. A Clayton Headteacher