

Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4FD

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents or Carers

## BISCOVEY ACADEMY MOVING TO HOME LEARNING AS OF WEDNESDAY 6<sup>™</sup> JANUARY (EXCEPT KEYWORKER/VULNERABLE PUPILS)

You will have seen in the news this weekend that unions representing teachers and support staff mounted a challenge to the government decision to reopen primary schools this week.

As a result, the Aspire Academy Trust is unable to guarantee sufficient staffing levels in certain Aspire academies for full opening and this includes Biscovey Academy. Therefore, as of Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, Biscovey Academy will be open to **keyworker and vulnerable pupils ONLY** until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January, inclusive (subject to review). All other pupils will move to online learning and our remote learning programme will be available from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January (subject to review).

Subject to eligibility, please click <u>here</u> to access the keyworker/vulnerable pupils booking-in form. **Please ensure that this form is completed by 12 pm tomorrow (05/01/21) so that spaces can be allocated.** You will be notified via email once your child's space is confirmed.

Further information will be sent out as a matter of urgency with regards to drop off and collection times, as well lunches that will available.

When you are dropping off/ collecting keyworker/vulnerable children, we ask that parents wear a face covering whilst on the school site.

Should you wish for your child to wear a mask on the way to/ home from school this is at your discretion. However, as per government guidance, we do not allow the wearing of face covering by pupils within school. If your child is wearing a mask during their journey to and from school, can you please ensure your child has a sealable plastic bag so that their mask can be safely removed and stored during school hours.

The government is not recommending the use of face coverings in primary schools. Based on current evidence and the measures that schools are already putting in place, such as the system of controls and consistent bubbles, face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible.

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I understand this is incredibly short notice for our families. However, I hope you understand the extremely challenging position we are currently facing. The decision to close temporarily has been taken by the Aspire Board of Trustees and the COVID-19 Response Team together with senior leaders and relevant Heads of Schools.

As this situation is changing daily, if not hourly, we ask you all to please keep a close eye on your personal email account (for Arbor communications) and your academy's Facebook and Twitter accounts for updates.

Yours faithfully

Mrs V Bragg Aspire CEO

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