



Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Earlier today I was informed that a decision had been made by the after-school club, on site at Archibald First School, to group the children together due to the low number of children attending across two sites of Archibald and St Charles' Primary School.

Under any normal circumstance this would not be a problem, however, due to the unprecedented situation that we all find ourselves in, I could not support this decision.

Whilst I fully acknowledge that this decision may be the primary reason that has caused the closure of the after school club for the foreseeable future, I equally feel that it is important to share with you all, openly and honestly, the reasons and rationale behind my reluctance for the two schools to mix as I understand the impact this will have on our families and those of St Charles' Primary School.

Primarily, the health and safety of the children, families and staff of our local community is of the utmost importance, and as the after-school club in on our site, I have a duty of care to ensure that everyone is adhering to the government guidelines and health and safety protocols.

The government guidelines clearly state that we should not be mixing socially - bringing children together from different schools goes against this.

From the Local Authority, we have been advised that should the need arise to relocate schools to a central venue that each school will be allocated a specific place and we would not be mixing under any circumstances. With that in mind, this further prompted the decision regarding requesting that only Archibald pupils attended.

Other reasons were also shared such as social distancing of 2m whilst on the premises, limiting the footfall within the building to reduce social contact further, advice as to the preparation of food for the children following that of the Local Authority Catering Services and the cleaning of the premises and resources as per the advice all schools have received.

I apologise for the inconvenience caused but believe that the decision to request that the two schools did not mix was the right one in the interest of all parties.

Sadly, due to the low number of places needed, it is not viable for the business to run at Archibald.

Kind regards

Rebecca Turner

Head Teacher

