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Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know, Kirsty Williams (Minister of Education) announced yesterday that she was bringing forward the Easter break for schools in Wales. Schools across Wales will close for statutory provision of education at the latest on 20 March 2020. Our school will close on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of March for most pupils (more details below).

She has also said that Welsh Government and Local Authorities are looking at ways to support and safeguard the vulnerable and ensuring continuity of learning. As a school, we have been working on plans to set up 'distance learning' opportunities for the pupils in our school. These learning activities will be set through our school website and through the Hwb Learning Platform which all pupils have access to.

For the next two weeks, no work will be set for the children to complete at home as it is, from the Minister's announcement, their holiday. After that, **should schools be told to remain closed**, work will be set online for pupils to complete. When the resources are ready, a text message will come out to parents directing you and your children to a page on the school website which will contain more information. This page will have help guides for pupils and parents as well as details regarding the activities to be completed.

The school website can be found at: [www.npted.org/melinprimary](http://www.npted.org/melinprimary)

Tomorrow, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of March, your child will come home with pencils and pens and an exercise book for them to write in.

To access the learning activities, your child will need to have their set of passwords for the many learning platforms that we use in school such as Mathletics, Activelearn and Oxford Reading Buddy and of course, Hwb.

If you and/or your child is currently in isolation, please contact the school to let us know how you will be collecting the blank exercise book and password information for the learning platforms.

We have now received further guidance from the local authority. The following plans are now being put into place.

On Monday, all schools will open to provide care / recreation / learning **for children of essential workers**.

This is the local authority list of essential workers

- health workers – all those employed within the NHS
- blue light / emergency service officers
- social care workers, those working in care homes, providing domiciliary care within the home setting, social workers.
- supermarket delivery drivers

**Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council**

'Motivating, Engaging, Learning, Inspiring, Nurturing'

- prison officers and other prison staff
- probation service staff
- school staff

Please contact the school if you are a worker within these essential services for our community, and thank you from us all for your continued efforts. Any queries, please contact school and we will try and help as much as we can.

Thank you for your understanding and patience at what is a time of worry for the children and their families. Please take care of each other.

Can I thank the school staff who will be providing the care and support in these sessions.

Yours sincerely,

T. Richards  
Headteacher

