



The
Bolton & Farnworth
CofE Primary
Multi Academy Trust
Together With God

Rupert Street, Bolton BL3 6PY

Tel: 01204 333466

Fax: 01204 333467

Email: office@bishop-bridgeman.bolton.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday afternoon it was announced by Public Health England and the University of Cambridge that the R value for the North West was 1.01. The R value is the rate of reproduction of the COVID-19 virus; this means that for every 1 person who is infected, they infect 1.01 people. Whilst Public Health England says that the R number around 1 is not necessarily a cause for concern they also point out that further investigation was needed to identify local outbreaks in the North West.

I would like to reassure parents that over the last week the Trust Central Team has monitored each school's risk assessment meticulously. The work that our Headteachers, senior leaders and staff have put into measures to mitigate risk is incredible. However, it is our duty as a Trust to keep our families safe and with a published R value in excess of 1, we are not persuaded that keeping our schools open more widely is the best way forward. I am writing therefore to let you know that, after very careful consideration of all factors involved, we have made the decision to close our schools for the time being and with immediate effect to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

Our schools will remain open to all key worker and vulnerable children as has been the case since lockdown began in March of this year.

We will communicate with parents and staff again by 18th June. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused due to the late notice but we do hope you understand that we are acting on information received late Friday afternoon and we would not be taking this course of action without believing it to be absolutely necessary for the safety of our whole school communities.

Canon Dr Chris Bracegirdle
Chair of Trustees

Mrs Jill Pilling
CEO