**SPIRES INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Principal: Mrs J Bell

27th March 2020

It has been a week since our school was closed and many of you collected your work packs last Friday. Our staff were very appreciative of your support and I wish to say thank you for all of those who took the time to pass on their gratitude, best wishes and support.  I hope and trust that you and your family are well. We are mindful of our children and hope that they remain safe and well.  School has been open each day, with staff reporting for work or on call, supporting our Key Workers on the front line.  I wish to thank all of the staff at Spires IPS, every single member of staff joined our rota, unless their family circumstances made it impossible.  We will continue to maintain a support service, until staffing levels mean it is no longer viable.  With this in mind, it is vital that our children are not sent to school unless all other avenues have been exhausted.

**IT IS SAFER FOR ALL, IF CONTACT/FOOTFALL IS KEPT TO A MINIMUM AND SOCIAL DISTANCING IS IMPLEMENTATED. ISOLATION AT HOME IS SAFER THAN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.**

The Department of Education is about to implement a hub system. This will mean a centralisation of resources. Staff in Mid Ulster will be combined in a centralised location, with children of essential staff from a number of schools, being looked after in a hub school. Staff from our school and other schools will be working at the Hub School throughout this period.

**Magherafelt Primary School is now the Hub School for this area.**

If you are a Key Worker and are likely to require this service for your child, please complete the data capture form and return to me via email before 8.00pm today, Friday 27 March. Jbell216@c2kni.net   A confirmation email will then be issued, if we are able to assist.

**TO REPEAT, THE PHA ADVICE IS THAT ALL CONTACT INCREASES RISK AND YOU SHOULD NOT SENT YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.**

Again, on behalf of all of the staff & Governors, I wish you and your family well in the coming days.

Joan Bell

Principal