



Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

School Closure Update

As I am sure you will now be aware, all schools have yesterday evening been instructed by the Prime Minister to close with immediate effect.

Even for those children who are eligible ('Vulnerable Pupils' and children of 'Critical Workers') to attend an on-site educational provision, **if children can stay at home safely then they should**. We must collectively reduce wherever possible, opportunity for COVID-19 to spread.

That is why the government has asked parents and carers to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely** need to attend.

Critical workers

It is **not** compulsory for Critical Worker children to attend school.

It is an **emergency service**, and if children can be at home safely because there is adequate care, then this is what **must** happen.

The whole point is to reduce transmission – this will **save lives**.

Whilst the school is '*open*' to eligible children, we must ensure that use of an on-site educational provision is kept to an absolute minimum requiring the deployment of minimal staff and thereby decreasing the exposure to risk for all. **You should only send your child to school now if you must and because your work is critical to the COVID-19 response.**

If you can keep your child at home, you should.

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If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response or EU transition and you work in one of the critical sectors listed here – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision> and you **cannot** keep your child safe at home, then your child(ren) will be prioritised for the on-site educational provision. You can book a place by completing the online survey sent via text today **by no later than 2pm**.

Nursery

Please note that on Wednesday 6th January, Nursery/FS1 provision will **not** be available. We await further guidance to inform our update to you tomorrow.

Remote Learning

We will be resuming online learning via Google Classroom, in combination with pre-recorded teaching sessions and lessons from Oak Academy.

Today, teachers are planning learning so that it can be delivered in an interactive and engaging way remotely. As ever, the teaching staff are committed to ensuring that all our children continue to work hard and make the good levels of progress, that they have all achieved, since returning to school in September.

Staff are prepared to deliver lessons in this way and will continue to provide learning opportunities across the curriculum.

I recognise that this model of learning can be challenging and we appreciate your support.

Please ensure that you can login to Google Classroom and please contact the school on 01482 354093 if you are having any issues and we will work with you to resolve these.

If you are experiencing difficulties with access to a learning device, then again please contact school and we will do what we can to help. Home Learning tasks will be available in paper form.

We have put together a dual learning package for online and offline learners. We want to ensure that all pupils can access our core areas of learning. If they are unable to access online learning, or do not have a suitable device on which to work, please let us know and we will provide paper packs.

Free School Meals Provision

As soon as we receive more information, we will update you on Free School Meal provision for those children not attending school.

As ever I want to thank you for your continued support, patience and understanding.

With kindest regards



Mr G Shaw
Head of School