

04 January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Firstly, I apologise for the lateness of this letter. As I hope you all understand by now, when you hear the news... we hear the news! We are devastated that we cannot welcome all of the children back into school tomorrow for a fresh term of learning. In this letter, I hope to outline our immediate plans for this week to provide you with some reassurance of continuation of learning for your children during this new national lockdown.

- As mentioned in the Prime Minister's briefing this evening, school is closed to all children from tomorrow except for the children of key workers and those that class as vulnerable children. Further guidance on who falls in to these categories can be found <u>here</u>.
- If you feel that your child falls into the category of 'vulnerable child', please message us on the School Gateway app to let us know that you intend on bringing them to school tomorrow.
- For the children of key workers, we ask that you are aware of the following:
 - You can send your child in to school if one of their parents or carers is a key worker
 - Please message us on the School Gateway app to inform us of your decision to send your child/children in to school
 - We ask you to provide evidence of your employer/key worker status (either through the School Gateway app or bring it to school tomorrow)
 - Please be aware that the provision for children in school is full time (FS2 to Year 6). FS1 provision for the children of key workers will be their usual hours.
 - Lunch will be provided as per the published menu tomorrow, as we have already placed stock orders and can cater for the children to eat in school. This may not be the case moving forward but will be so for this week.
- The start and end times/procedures for the school day will remain the same as before Christmas.
- We will continue to use Friday afternoons to provide staff PPA during this time to protect staff health and safety and so all children will access blended learning from home at this time.

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- The Out of School Club provision will be available for children attending school. If you need this provision, please email them directly but also, please let us know via the School Gateway app.
- Blended Learning activities for tomorrow will be uploaded to Teams but may not include as many 'live sessions'. Please allow us the time tomorrow to arrange for technology to be distributed throughout the community and then more 'live' learning opportunities will begin on Wednesday.
- From our survey in the Autumn Term, we were able to gather a picture of how many families need a loaned device to access Blended Learning. However, we appreciate that this situation may have changed over the past months. Please message us on the School Gateway app as soon as you can if you feel you would benefit from the loan of a device during this time. We will endeavour to provide as much technology as we can, as speedily as we can, to support your family. We will also be applying to the DfE for further devices, but this process can take some time.

I will write again this week and stay in touch with you all through the website and your children's Teams classrooms so for now - stay safe everyone.

Yours sincerely

Dictoria Whith

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