



Homefield Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

2nd January 2021

We hope you have all had a pleasant Christmas break with your immediate families and are as hopeful, as we all are, as to what the new year of 2021 will have in store for us.

Since March 2020 when all this began, you have continued to be supportive and have helped our school to keep operating effectively despite the many challenges and Government changes. Firstly, you have assisted us to keep our pupils and staff safe, but you have also assisted us to provide some normality and routine in our pupils' learning. We are very grateful for this, but must ask that this support continues as we find our region placed into Tier 4 only a few days ago.

We are making arrangements to open on Monday 4th January 2021, however with the quick-changing dynamics of the current opening of schools, we will let you know at the earliest convenience if the school will not be opening. When we open, we hope that with our strict safety expectations in place we can remain relatively unaffected, as we were prior to the Christmas break. However, we all know the situation in society is showing a worrying increase in daily cases, and as a result nobody is able to guarantee the virus will remain outside our setting forever. All we can do is play our collective part to ensure everyone's safety.

The list below is a reminder of the expectations you all must adhere to, to keep everyone safe and well:

1. All visitors to the site must wear a face covering. If you are medically exempt from wearing a mask, you must wear an exemption lanyard, which is visible, to prevent staff asking you to wear one. This is to ensure everyone's safety.
2. Please arrive on time. The staggered window is there for everyone's safety.
3. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please telephone to arrange an appointment or send an email to inform them rather than attempting to have this conversation on the playground, as this increases risk.
4. Pupils should arrive with one parent only to reduce the number of contacts we have on the site at any one time.
5. Once your child has been dropped off and you have left the premises, please do not return to the premises to use the school as a shortcut. Our staggered arrival and departure times are there to reduce contacts and to keep everyone safe.
6. Once on the premises with your child, please ensure you head directly to your child's class line. Please do not stand with other parents at a line that is not for your child. We advise that parents stand with their youngest child, if they have more than one.
7. Children of all ages should be closely supervised by their parent/carer and not running around bursting the class lines of other year groups, as this increases risk.
8. Please keep left on the paths and socially distanced, even from other parents you are familiar with.
9. Once your child has been dropped off, please leave the premises swiftly and safely and not remain to continue personal conversations. This increases risk and parents will be politely asked to leave.
10. It is the Winter season and windows will be open for necessary ventilation, please ensure you send your child into school dressed appropriately for the cold. We have already promoted the wearing of plain, navy fleeces.



11. If your child or a member of their household has any of the main COVID symptoms, please do not come to school. If your child or a member of their household is awaiting a test result, please do not come into school, unless the test result is negative. If your child or a member of their household has tested positive, or your child has had a direct contact with a positive case, please do not come into school.

Once more, we all find ourselves having to adapt our approach and adjust to yet further changes and we understand and appreciate the challenges and anxieties all parents will now have about whether to send their children into school. Nevertheless, please be reassured that Homefield staff will do their best to ensure the children are safe and continue their education as best as possible. We will endeavour to improve the blended/remote learning staff have already implemented to date for those shielding/isolating, so please be patient as staff are trained on new elements and these are in turn introduced.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Bradley Young
Headteacher

Jonathan Earle
Chair of Governors

