



Homefield Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

5th January 2021

After hearing the Prime Minister's announcement placing us into yet another national lockdown until at least the February half-term, all schools must again close remaining open only for the pupils of critical workers and the children of vulnerable families. As we are in a national lockdown, the Government have stated people should work from home only travelling to work where necessary.

It is noticeable that our list for the number of parents who are critical workers has almost doubled since the previous lockdown and this increase, if all pupils were booked to come in at the same time, would mean we would have to prioritise children of families where both parents were critical workers to reduce the number of contacts. **The places we offer are therefore only for the parents on the critical worker list who are not working from home.** If a parent is working from home, regardless of whether this family has critical worker status or not, their child must remain at home with them for remote learning to reduce the number of contacts we have in school. Critical workers should also only book a place for the days they have to be at work. We will cross-reference our records with this current register and may request evidence to prove critical worker status. Hopefully, the numbers being booked into school remain at a safe level and we can avoid having to prioritise any pupils.

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable they should not be in school and should receive written medical direction supporting this.

Please be reassured that we will do all we can to support children learning from home, as well as those coming into school. We understand parents may find home learning challenging, but we again remind you to simply do your best with it. Read daily, complete craft, energetic and exciting activities and above-all be supportive, alongside what school sets and expects each child to do. Please remember to liaise with teachers using their direct emails to ask for further support or encourage your child to message their teacher themselves using Google Classroom. Emotional and nurturing support will also be available should it be needed, please simply ask. Staff have worked so hard alongside you all to return our pupils to school-readiness since September, please continue to support this by maintaining the routine at home as much as possible. It will be tough, but we know you can do it.

As mentioned in yesterday's letter, our Breakfast and After-School Clubs will continue to operate for the critical workers, if needed, and must be booked using the same system we already have in place. Pupils in school are attending a 'normal day' and therefore must wear uniform. They may attend in PE kit on their usual PE days too. Tuck can also be booked for those in school should they wish for it using the same booking system.

Hot/Packed lunches will still be prepared for those in school and any families eligible for the Free School Meals benefit (not the Universal Infant Free School Meals) will be able to contact the school office to order a school packed lunch, if they are not eligible to be in school, for collection should they wish for one each day.

The main thing is to remember to stay home and stay safe. If you have any questions, please contact the school office on the telephone number or email address above.

As ever, thank you for your continued support through this.

Bradley Young
Headteacher

Jonathan Earle
Chair of Governors

