

MEREVALLEY FEDERATION

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Soheila Mathison
Chair of Governing Board: Mr Nick Sharp

Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from the Government updates yesterday, I am writing to let you know that **we have now been instructed to close the school from 4th January 2021 until at least 18th January 2021 due to the high level of Covid-19 cases in Milton Keynes.**

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and for vulnerable children. Your child can attend school if they:

- a) Have an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) or are undergoing assessment for one
- b) Are subject to a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan
- c) Are receiving support from Children's Social Care services, or the family is currently being assessed for support
- d) Your child is a Young Carer

Your child can also attend school if parents or carers are critical workers, as defined by the Government. An updated list of critical workers can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We have an inset day planned for the 4th January 2021 which is vital for us to ensure we can get everything ready for the 5th January 2021. If your child needs to attend school from Tuesday 5th January 2021, please complete the following form to register your child for a place.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeBsRoMv_3X3tQmi0zKSVtjAMfw4XhWdXIzR6z4983nSUU2YQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

This needs to be completed by 7.30am on Monday 4th January 2021, as this is when the staffing will be arranged. Further details about this in-school provision will then be sent to you on Monday.

For those children attending school, there will be no wrap around care provision.

From Tuesday 5th January 2021, all other children not in these categories will be provided with online learning via Google Classroom. They cannot come to school. If you stated on the questionnaire last term that your child does not have access to a device or the internet, we will contact you regarding paper packs for your child's learning. If this has changed and your child doesn't have access, please email:

it@emersonvalley.org.uk. A letter to all parents regarding this will be sent out on Monday 4th January 2021, once arrangements are finalised.

We have been contacted by our school meals provider, Chartwells, who have informed us that they have cancelled any school meals that have been ordered for next week. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, we will be in touch as soon as we have received more information from Chartwells.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. As a school, we find out the information at the same time as you do, via the press briefings. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Thank you again for your continued support. We will be in touch with more information early next week.

H White

Mrs H White
Head of School

