



Eaton Primary School



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Headteacher: Mr Allan Lowe

Dear Parent

Covid-19 Update

4 January 2021

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and I am sure that we all hope that this year will be much better one than last year.

This letter is an update on the arrangements for the start of term and measures taken during the holiday.

We are in a position to open for all pupils at the start of the term. All staff are available to work from Tuesday 5 January and you should follow previous drop off and collection arrangements. School attendance continues to be compulsory except for pupils shielding (Tier 4 guidance).

I thank all our exceptional staff for their continued commitment to keeping the school operational during these very challenging times.

Positive Cases

Over the Christmas break, we had two confirmed pupil cases of covid 19. Measures were put in place to inform families and staff of isolation procedures. I would like to thank everyone for their support and cooperation at this time of year.

We also had three confirmed staff cases of covid-19. Two will have completed isolation in time for term starting. One is more recent and is due to return back to school week beginning 11 January.

Isolation Guidance

If any member of your household becomes symptomatic they should isolate at home and immediately book a test. Do not send your child to school if they are symptomatic. Contact the school office to let us know and their absence will be authorised.

If any member of your household tests positive, the whole household must isolate for ten days from the onset of symptoms. Please contact the school office to let us know.

Safety Plan

We have updated our covid-19 safety plan in response to the new variant of coronavirus and in response to moving from Tier 3 to Tier 4 over the holiday.

This includes the following new measures:

- Stay at home guidance for clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) pupils and staff (shielding).

- Mask wearing for all staff outside of classroom teaching.
- Reduced cross bubble working.

Sanitising and ventilation, together with social distancing wherever possible, remains in place. We cannot eradicate all risk in the school, but by following national and school guidelines we will work to minimise it as much as we can.

Extended School Provision – Breakfast and After School Clubs

Due to the support it provides our parents and especially keyworkers, our extended school provision will remain open. Please consider how essential this service is to you and make alternative arrangements if you are able to. This will help us to manage our numbers and reduce transmission risk.

Attendance

The DFE stipulates that attendance at school continues to be compulsory. The school must follow government policy. When school is fully open, unless your child is absent from school due to sickness or other authorised reason (e.g. compassionate leave), their absence must be recorded as unauthorised. Home learning from the school can only be provided for authorised absence. Our attendance records are subject to external scrutiny and are a statutory document.

Contingency Plan for School Closure

In the event of a school closure, we have in place a contingency plan for the continuation of education. Most children will work from home and access a daily timetable of home learning via Seesaw. School will be open only to children of keyworkers in the event of closure.

This will be another challenging term for everybody and I thank all of our parents for their continued support for the school. We will continue to navigate what is a very difficult situation, within the parameters set by our Trust and national policies, to minimise risk as much as we can and continue to educate our children.

Yours faithfully



Allan Lowe
Headteacher