



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

I would first like to extend a huge thank you to everyone for your understanding and words of support in regards to the difficult situation we all find ourselves in. You will have seen the government announcement last night which has directed all schools to revert to remote learning and to provide places for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children only. I am very grateful to those of you who responded so promptly to our communications yesterday which meant we could formulate and plan at short notice and open to those groups today.

Initially, we had expected to be able to reopen on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January but, after last night's announcement, we are expecting remote learning provision to extend until February half term. As a result, I would ask you to read the following information and respond to any requests that apply to your individual circumstances.

### Key Worker provision

We have currently organised our key worker provision until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January based on the bookings we have received and I am very grateful to those of you who have worked to make alternative arrangements over these two weeks. However, I am aware that the extension of the lockdown period may mean that key workers may need to access provision from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. So as we can forward plan, please can I ask that any families wishing to access key worker provision from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January notify school as soon as possible and ideally no later than 4pm Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January. I fully appreciate that you may not be able to specify exact days due to changing circumstances, but please provide us with as much detail as you are able.

**I do need to stress that we are requesting that the provision is only accessed if necessary. We are operating with reduced staffing and the purpose of school closures is to limit interactions wherever possible to reduce transmission risk. Please only request places if you have no other option. If numbers increase significantly, we may need to implement limits and prioritise places to ensure we can still maintain appropriate social distancing and safety measures.**

### Breakfast Club and After School Club

We are hoping to be able to provide wraparound care from tomorrow, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021. There will be a change to the Breakfast club timings which will now open at 8am. We will have to review the provision on a weekly basis as it will be very much dependent on numbers and staff availability. It will also need to rely on pre-booking so please indicate as soon as you are able if your child is attending the key worker provision and will also need access to Breakfast Club and After School Club and the sessions you require.

### Remote learning

Please remember that we are available if you require any support with accessing Google Classroom. Class teachers are in school supporting key worker groups as well as organising the remote learning so we would appreciate your patience and understanding as they may not be able to respond to all queries immediately. School will provide Maths, English and Topic work each day but we do completely understand that everyone's circumstances are different so please do not worry if you are unable to complete everything.

### Nursery provision

Last night's announcement did make reference to nursery schools remaining open and I have received some queries regarding this. The most recent school guidance does state that nursery schools operating within primary schools can follow the approach of the school. As a result, we will currently only be open to nursery children who are the children of key workers. However, I am seeking clarity on this and, should the situation change, I will inform you further.



## Face coverings

Please can I ask that any parents collecting from the key worker provision wear a face covering when on the school grounds. These need to be put on before entering (through the main school gate or through the small wooden gate by the car park) and should remain in place until you have left the site.

I hope that the children are all well and are managing with the change to the normal school routines. I hope those who were able to join have enjoyed the Zoom sessions today and please do get in touch if we can support you further.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey