



Saturday 2nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of the changes we have had to make in line with the most recent government updates relating to Covid-19.

The Department for Education (on Wednesday 30th December) released amended guidance regarding the start of Spring Term. Please click here for this guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>

This guidance requires primary schools in some areas to shift to remote education and not open for face-to-face provision. This is in line with the Department for Education's contingency framework. **Harrow has now been added to this list of areas.** The government have informed us that the next review of this decision will take place on Wednesday 13th January.

Heathland School will be closed for majority of pupils who will learn remotely from home from the start of term on Tuesday 5th January.

Remote learning will start on Tuesday 5th January. This will include video lessons, learning tasks on OneNote and interactive online sessions between class teachers and their pupils via Microsoft Teams. We will email you with further information regarding the online learning on Monday 4th January so please make sure we have your up to date email address.

Vulnerable Children and Children of Critical Workers

Heathland School will remain open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers. If you are a critical worker and wish your child to attend school during this period, please email office@heathland.harrow.sch.uk by the close of Sunday 3rd January. This will then allow us to finalise this provision. Children attending in this group should wear normal school uniform.

Please see this link for further information on key/critical workers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Please see this link for further information on vulnerable children :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

We will contact the parents/carers of vulnerable children on Monday to make sure these pupils attend school.

Breakfast and 3 O'Clock Club Provision

We will not be running our breakfast or after school club provision for the days that the school is closed. Key worker and vulnerable children can attend from 8.45 a.m until 3.00 p.m.

Lunches

We ask that you provide a packed lunch for your child unless they are entitled to free school meals in which case a packed lunch will be provided for them by the school catering team. Please contact the office if you have any questions about your child's eligibility for free school meals.

Covid 19

Critical worker children and vulnerable can attend as long as they:

- Do NOT show any COVID symptoms
- Have no one in their household currently with symptoms or has tested positive
- They are not self-isolating following a positive COVID test or have been traced to self-isolate

The key symptoms are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Food Parcels

Between Tuesday 5th January and Friday 15th January, food parcels will be available from school for pupils learning remotely, who are eligible for free school meals. Our office team will contact you to arrange collection of these.

National Tier system

The guidance asks us to remind you that children and young people must comply with the rules according to the tier in which they live. The guidance asks parents and carers to help ensure that their children follow the rules. Harrow is currently in Tier 4. Further guidance can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home>

If you have any questions or queries regarding the information provided then please email: office@heathland.harrow.sch.uk . Alternatively, you can call the school office on **020 8422 4503** from 9.00 am on Monday 4th January 2021.

We once again thank you for your ongoing positivity and support.

Kind regards,



Miss F R Hopkins
Headteacher

Heathland Whitefriars Federation, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, company number 09066965.
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