



Grange Primary School

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RE: January 2021 - partial school opening

Dear Grange families,

I trust that my letter finds you well and that you have all managed to have an enjoyable and safe Christmas despite the Tier 4 restrictions.

Due to surging rates of COVID -19 and the new variant that has emerged, the Secretary of State announced this evening that some primary schools will have to move to partial school closures and only open for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers. Southwark has been listed as one of the high-risk boroughs and this means that Grange Primary School will move to remote learning from Wednesday, 06th January 2021 for most pupils.

The risk of catching or passing COVID-19 to others is now higher than at any point since the first wave, and together with the news of a new strain of the virus, the need to be rigorous in following **Hands, Face, Space** has never been greater, but we must go further.

The Senior Leadership Team have been discussing plans and arrangements this evening and will reconvene on Monday, 04th January 2021 to finalise all arrangements for the Government's new directive, which was announced tonight.

To ensure we have all the information we require to provide effective education in school (for those attending) and through remote learning (for those not able to attend), we ask that you complete the google form using the link as soon as possible.

Please also look at the government's priority list to determine if your child is eligible to attend over the next two weeks (see attached Appendix to this letter). Those families who have requested a device will be notified about the collection arrangements on Tuesday, 05th January 2021.

We understand that this is not an ideal situation and we would have preferred to have all our pupils back for face to face learning. However, our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of our school community during these critical times. As always, we will provide further detailed information about arrangements once it has all been finalised.

I would like to thank you for your continued support. Together we **WILL** get through this.

Yours sincerely,

L.Black

Mr Lorrain Black

Acting Headteacher

30/12/2020

APPENDIX: Vulnerable children and young people

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services
 - adopted children, those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
 - those living in temporary accommodation, those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
 - others at the provider and local authority's discretion

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arm's length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors