



## Bishop's Primary School

Josephine Butler Campus, Academy Road,  
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Principal: Mrs. M Hinson

5th January 2021

### **Essential information for parents during Lockdown - January 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to express my thanks for your patience and understanding this week. It has been a challenging time for us all and decision making has been especially difficult due to the lateness of Government announcements and information from the Department for Education.

Following the announcement made by the Prime Minister, Bishop's Primary School will only be open for vulnerable children and those whose parents/carers are designated as 'critical workers' until at least the 15th February.

The safety of our pupils and staff is our utmost priority and our procedures have been carefully reviewed since the latest announcement.

#### **Who can attend school?**

**Vulnerable children** - The guidance says that vulnerable children 'are expected to attend school full time' unless they are shielding, self-isolating or quarantining. If a parent of a vulnerable child wishes their child to be absent from school, the parent should let the school know. The families of those classed as vulnerable will be contacted directly by their campus.

**Children of 'Critical workers'** Guidance on 'critical workers' is contained in this link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>

#### **Booking a place for your child**

For places from Monday 11th January, parents/carers are required to book their child a place if they wish them to attend the following week. There is an online booking system which will be available from 9am each Monday until 3pm each Thursday of the previous week. This applies to all children of critical workers from the 'Two Year Old' provision up to Year 6. The booking form is available now on our website.

#### **The School Day**

Normal school hours apply 8.45 - 3.15 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 2pm each Wednesday. Staggered starting and finishing times are no longer necessary. Breakfast Club is available as normal and needs to be booked and paid for using the online booking form.

#### **Uniform**

Children should wear their school uniform and PE kit as normal.

#### **School lunches**

We will be providing a school lunch for pupils on campus. Please pay for your child's lunches in the usual way.



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### **Free School Meals**

Children who receive 'benefits related free school meals' but are not attending school will be provided with either a packed lunch or food parcel for the remainder of this week. Hopefully, from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> this will be replaced by the voucher scheme set up at Christmas.

### **Coronavirus Testing**

**Children must not attend if they have symptoms or are isolating due to symptoms in their household.**

Pupils in all settings are eligible for testing if they become ill with coronavirus symptoms as will members of their household. For further information regarding testing and to request one please see: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

### **Personal protective equipment (PPE) including face coverings and face masks**

The Government does not recommend Primary aged pupils wear a face covering or face mask in schools. However some members of staff may wear a face mask when moving around the campus. Some staff wear a visor when working with small groups.

### **Remote learning for children working at home**

Lockdown Learning this time is very different and all children are expected to do a minimum of 3 hours each day. It is very important that children complete the learning tasks set by their teacher on a daily basis, they need to remain engaged in education, even when they are not attending their campus. Children who do not complete their home learning tasks will fall behind the rest of their class and could struggle with their lessons when they return to school. We understand that each family's circumstances and their access to learning material for their children is different and the responsibility to provide educational support at home can be difficult for families. Please can you make every effort to ensure that your child has access to and completes any learning material provided. Should your child be unable to access the learning material, please contact the campus admin team as soon as possible?  
With thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Melanie J Hinson