



Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL
Tel: 01923 225188 email: admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA. Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH
we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the late announcement yesterday declaring a full lock down, I am able to confirm that we can safely stay open for pupils in Nursery, pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals (not Universal Free School Meals) and pupils whose parents are Critical Workers.

I apologise about the late changes but schools got no advance notice and we have to ensure that we follow the guidance, remaining open safely for the protection of our staff and pupils.

As a result of the change in the guidance now issued, pupils from Reception can only attend school if their parent is a Critical Worker or if they are entitled to a Free School Meal. Critical Workers with a child in Reception must please notify us now, if they have not done so already, so that their child can attend school.

Parents of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who are not in receipt of Free School Meals are strongly advised to check their eligibility via the link below and notify us immediately of any change.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

As Free School Meal pupils will attend school, we can provide them with a hot meal at lunch time. If your child, who is eligible for a Free School Meal is self-isolating, we will contact you to make alternative arrangements.

Another change to the guidance, the Critical Worker list has been updated to include new workforces whose work is critical following the end of the EU transition period.

The survey (link below) has now been reopened for parents who have not yet completed it.

If you have completed the survey before, you **DO NOT** have to do it again and, if eligible, you can safely send your child to school tomorrow.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JTZ7QHW>

From tomorrow, Wednesday 6th January 2021, all pupils in Nursery, those pupils of Critical Workers who completed the survey monkey and those pupils entitled to Free School Meals are



encouraged to attend school. All other pupils will receive learning remotely until the government reviews the guidance. If you child/children cannot access the remote learning please contact their class teacher.

This could be because

- there is not enough devices at home
- there is no internet access at home
- your child cannot access the remote learning for another reason

To Summarise:

- School is open to all pupils in Nursery from tomorrow
- School is open to all pupils entitled to Free School Meals from tomorrow
- School is open to all pupils of Critical Workers (who have informed us) from tomorrow
- School will operate as normal for all the above pupils

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C van Straaten', written in a cursive style.

Mr C van Straaten
Headteacher