

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

No doubt you are aware from the media, infection and hospitalisation rates of COVID-19 have been increasing across the country increasing uncertainty and potential risk. As a result, the largest teaching union, the NEU has advised its members that it is currently unsafe for them to return to work teaching full classes.

This means that we do not have staff available to open safely to all children for the next 2 weeks. We will continue to open for children of critical and key workers and vulnerable children. The rest of the school community will be able to access remote learning via the online platform Seesaw.

Most of you recently signed up to seesaw, our online learning platform. Teachers will be posting daily work for your child on this platform and teachers will be available to give feedback. If you still need to sign up, please contact your child's teachers.

We understand completely parents' anxiety and uncertainty regarding developments in the news with regards to school openings. We completely appreciate and share your frustration about the situation.

However, staff, pupils and families of Highweek are our highest concern, and whilst we understand the impact this may have on the education of the pupils, and disruption to working practice of parents, we believe the decision to partially close the school is justified.

We appreciate the closure will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from an ideal scenario, but we'll keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops. If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so via admin@highweekprimary.co.uk

If you are a critical or key worker and require a place at school, please contact admin@highweekprimary.co.uk so that we can timetable when your child will be in.

If your child is vulnerable, we will contact you to confirm a place.

School lunches: For those critical and vulnerable children attending, there will be no school lunches on site. Therefore, your child will need to bring in a packed lunch.

Highweek Community Primary & Nursery School
Acting Headteacher: Mrs J Bassett
Coronation Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1TX
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Email: admin@highweekprimary.co.uk
www.highweekprimary.co.uk

If your children are entitled to Free School Meals, you will be able to pick up a Care Package from the office Monday 11th January 2021 in the afternoon. If you are entitled to Free School Means and require a Care Package, please contact the office by the end of the day tomorrow (Tuesday 5th January).

Normally, I would be in school supporting families and teachers on site. However, midweek I developed COVID-19 symptoms, promptly got tested, and on New Year's Day I received a notification that I tested positive for the illness. I am currently following the NHS and DfE guidance and isolating. I aim to be back in school on Monday 11th January and look forward to being in contact with you all then.

Mr Brown and Miss Carter will be running the school in my absence. They will be in constant touch with me and I will endeavour to work from home.

We will of course update you as soon as we know anything via SchoolComms.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support during these difficult and rapidly evolving times.

Take care and stay safe.

Jane Bassett
Acting Headteacher

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