



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope you managed to have a lovely Christmas and that you remain safe and well. For anyone not well, I send you my best wishes and hope that you feel better very soon.

It is with great disappointment that I am sending this letter at such a late hour and when we were looking forward to starting the new term. As you are most likely aware, the Government's announcement at 8pm tonight (4.01.2021) has closed school buildings to the majority of pupils. This means that schooling continues, but at home, where you can stay safe and not mix with others.

Critical workers and Vulnerable children

Children considered vulnerable or with parents/carers that are key workers should still attend school. If you think you may qualify, please consult the 'critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings' document:

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

This is unlike the previous full lockdown where schools offered childcare provision. This lockdown requires full attendance and provides a comprehensive learning delivery. Taking this means normal schooling for your child. Children will arrive and leave school at normal times and have lunch in school. Attendance and punctuality will be expected as normal. All days of the week are required - no booking of sessions or attending part time. Children will wear school uniform/PE kit.

Should you wish to take this place, please attend school as normal tomorrow. You will be met by a staff member and taken to your class for a normal day's learning. Please use the MyEd communication system to provide evidence of key worker status (formal letter, photo of badge etc). If you were invited to attend school in the previous lockdown, having been identified as vulnerable, that will apply during this lockdown. **If you are unsure you may MyEd a message or arrive in the morning to speak with a staff member.**

Remote Learning

Remote learning for those not attending school is available on the website:

Covid-19/Remote Learning/Class or Year Group

https://www.chadsmeadacademy.co.uk/web/remote_learning_1/518530

This learning mirrors that of what will take place in school and follows our curriculum plan should schools be open as normal. This will be updated weekly. You already have books to complete work in. Should you require any other stationery please use the MyEd app to communicate your needs.

Later in the week, you will be provided with an e-mail address to communicate with staff regarding the work and to send completed work to and receive feedback from. It is hoped to move to some online face to face learning and you will be contacted in due course when your class is ready to move to this style of learning.

Thank you for completing the recent survey regarding access to technology at home. We will use this information to contact you over the next few days should you have indicated the need to loan an appliance. Please be aware this is on loan from the DfE and we rely on a timely delivery from them. Our academy trust placed an order for this provision before the Christmas holiday.

Free School Meals

Children with Free School Meal entitlement will once again receive packed lunch boxes that can be collected from the school kitchen. We will message those eligible to identify if they are needed and then when they are ready for collection.

Jozone

Staff will be in school tomorrow (5/1/2021) at their usual time in the morning. Please liaise with Jozone directly to organise out of school provision.

There is light at the end of the tunnel and we need to trust our scientists that the vaccination programme working in parallel with a 6 week lockdown, will play a critical role in beating this virus.

Please rest assured we will be working tirelessly to put as much in place as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

Your sincerely

Mrs Gemma Grainger
(Headteacher)