



West Ham Church Primary School

Portway, London, E15 3QG

Tel: 020 8534 3904

e-mail: info@westham.newham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs. Nicola James

31st December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, the government has announced it will be applying the contingency framework for education and childcare settings to primary schools in areas of the country with very high rates of incidence or transmission of the virus, with the first areas to move into the framework announced yesterday. This includes all primary schools in Newham.

The Prime Minister explained that schools in themselves are safe, but in areas where the infection rate is very high, there are risks of transmission between one household and another. It is hoped the delay to the full opening of schools in such areas will reduce this risk and help to bring the rate of infection down.

Critical worker and vulnerable children

As a result, only vulnerable children and the children of critical workers should attend school. We will be providing remote learning for all other children in line with the contingency framework.

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. To check if you are classified as a critical worker or if your child is included as a vulnerable child, please use this link:

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

If you are a critical worker and you have a need for your child to attend school, contact us by email (info@westham.newham.sch.uk). Kindly note, we will require a letter of confirmation from employers confirming critical worker status, if you have not provided one before.

We will be in touch with families of vulnerable children to discuss attendance in school. We will continue to work together with our families with the children's best interests at heart.

Monday 4th January is an INSET day and we have rapidly adapted our training plans to enable the teachers to have some time to prepare online lessons and remote learning. Education will start for all on the 5th January, whether in school or at home.

The full curriculum will be on offer and children are expected to attend a full school day although not all of this will be online. We need your support to make this happen, please. We are acutely aware how a further period out of school could be detrimental to our children's long-term life outcomes and negatively impact on their progress and learning. We have worked very hard to offer high quality remote learning and a high level of contact to support families at home throughout this year.

Internet and devices

If you have any issues with internet or devices, please contact us via email and we will assist as best we can. Chromebooks have been loaned to children in Key Stage 2 and we have a few data hubs available for eligible families.



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School Meals

We are contacting our caterers, Juniper, in regards to food packs for eligible families. Vouchers were sent to eligible families over the Christmas holiday, but we have not been given any information about the possibility of further vouchers yet. Rest assured, we will keep you informed as soon as we know more.

Finally, all the staff at West Ham Church School would like me to pass on their best wishes to you and your families. We are humbled by your generosity – thank you for lovely gifts and messages of appreciation. We hope the holiday brought some happiness and times to treasure spent with the children. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Kind regards,

Mrs James
Headteacher