



31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPRING TERM 2021

You will have seen in the news that on Wednesday 30th December the government stipulated that primary schools in certain areas, including Croydon, will only be open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers.

The remaining children will be educated remotely, using Google Classroom.

This arrangement will be in place until Monday 18th January and potentially for longer, and will be regularly reviewed by the government.

Atwood will be remaining closed until Wednesday 6th January. This will allow us to review our Risk Assessment and define our list of vulnerable children and children of critical workers. It will also give us time to put in place an effective staffing rota, based on teachers having to be both in school and leading remote learning.

Children who are neither vulnerable nor a child of a critical worker will be set remote learning from Wednesday 6th January, until further notice.

From Wednesday 6th January, vulnerable children and children of critical workers will be able to attend school.

Please do ensure that you look carefully at our school website and our frequent letters updating you as to the situation as it develops.

To ensure clarity, Atwood will be using the categories of critical workers as defined by the government and on Monday 4th January, will be sending a Google Form requesting information back from critical workers if they require a place for their child from Wednesday onwards. There will be a tight turn around for families to return this form, for us to organise the teaching provision.

For your convenience, the list of critical worker categories is below:

Health and Social Care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain,

including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and Childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key Public Services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and National Government

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other Necessary Goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and National Security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

Thank you for your support and understanding at what is, once again, a challenging time for us all.

Yours faithfully,

Mr RJ Veale
Head Teacher