



Ackworth Howard Church of England (VC) Junior and Infant School

Station Road, Low Ackworth, Pontefract,
West Yorkshire, WF7 7HH
Tel: 01977 612124

Web: www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk
Email: admin@howard.wakefield.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. M Walker - BA (Hons)
Chair of Governors: Mrs L. O'Brien

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Coronavirus Update

The Prime Minister last night announced that a new national lockdown will come into force at 00:01 on Wednesday 6th January.

During this period of national lockdown, schools will remain **open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers only. All other children will learn remotely until February half term.**

Nursery provision can remain open during this period of lockdown and after considering our options within the school setting, we can provide this service for Nursery pupils.

The government stress that the decision to close schools does not suggest that schools are no longer safe places. Instead limiting attendance is about reducing the number of contacts that all of us have with people of other households in the face of rapidly rising cases.

For vulnerable pupils, children of critical workers and staff, the system of protective measures means that any risks will be managed and controlled as much as possible.

Booking a Place

If you feel you meet the criteria (critical workers listed at the end of this letter) and would like a place at school for your child, you must book the days you require using the school's online payment system – School Money (there is no cost to this of course). A place must be booked using this system and not by any other method of communication so that we can ensure places are allocated accurately. If too many places are booked, we will need to review this and prioritise pupils on a tiered system. Hopefully this will not be required as the stay at home message is clear.

Wrap Around Childcare

Wrap around provision will still be in place should there be demand for this and can be booked in the usual way.

School Meal Provision

During the period of national lockdown, pupils attending will still receive a school dinner should they require it. The kitchen will remain open.

For those pupils who receive a benefits related free school meal, the kitchen staff will put together food hampers following the guidance that has been prepared jointly by LACA, PHE and DfE which sets out some general principles for putting together hampers that will allow parents/carers to

Compassion
Forgiveness
Friendship
Trust

prepare simple and healthy lunches for their child/ren at home across the week. Food hampers can be collected from 10am each Monday during the half term.

Remote Education

Remote learning will commence from tomorrow and will continue to be provided through the Google Classroom.

In addition to the usual offer, some live learning opportunities will be available from Monday at the latest. Information will be provided by teachers through the Google Classroom.

We recognise children may have issues accessing live content and that it may not be feasible for some. Most live opportunities will be recorded to watch back at a more convenient time.

We will also be providing small live group sessions where appropriate so that we are able to continue our intervention and catch up strategy.

Teachers have agreed to deliver some live learning opportunities; please can you ensure that conduct meets the usual expectations of those within the classroom otherwise this facility may be withdrawn as it is not a requirement.

If for any reason you do not have the required stationary, resources or technology to support remote learning or have problems accessing the Google Classroom, please contact school as we may be able to help.

School Uniform

For pupils attending school, school uniform will be required to keep in line with the fact that we are providing formal education.

The Governments instruction is clear – Stay at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Walker
Headteacher



Compassion
Forgiveness
Friendship
Trust

Critical Worker List

Parents whose work is crucial to the coronavirus and EU transition response including those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

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 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 COVID-19 response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export, including in government agencies and arm's 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 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



Compassion

Forgiveness

Friendship

Trust

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure 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 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

