

Benhurst Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs K. Hart BSc (Hons)

Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Tier 4 School Closures- January 2021

I hope that you are all well and have enjoyed your Christmas break, albeit different to normal.

I am sure that you will have seen the most recent Government briefing where it was announced that some schools within tier 4 would not be returning as expected after the Christmas break. We have received confirmation that **all Havering schools will remain closed** to most pupils from the 4th January 2021 due to the increasing number of confirmed cases within Havering.

The Government guidance has made it clear that Primary schools should only allow **children of critical workers** and those **defined as vulnerable** to attend. Benhurst Primary School will be open to these pupils from **Tuesday 5th January**. (Monday 4th January continues to be an Inset Day as planned). A full list of critical workers and those pupils defined as vulnerable can be found here:

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

Unfortunately, ABACUS will be unable to offer Breakfast and After school provision during the school closures. School will be open from 8:45am-3.30pm (3.15pm for Reception and Year 1 pupils). I am awaiting confirmation from Caterlink regarding the service of school dinners during the next 2 weeks. I will confirm this once I am able to.

We are asking that only critical workers and parents and carers of vulnerable children complete the Google form below to confirm that their children will be attending school full-time from **Tuesday 5th January**. All pupils who return to school **MUST** attend Monday to Friday. Please complete the form by 12 noon on **Saturday 2nd January** to enable us to make further plans in school.

<https://forms.gle/jbURBKcKfRWJDAHd6>



For those pupils returning to school, please remember to follow the Government's guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19. If a member of your household has received a positive test, all household members should self - isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. (This is updated guidance with effect of Monday 14th December 2020) If a member of your household has developed symptoms, all members of the household should isolate until a negative test result is received.

Pupils who are not returning to school

Pupils who are not returning to school will be provided with remote learning via Google Classroom; this will include some live lessons in all year groups. Live lesson times and links will be posted into each Google Classroom.

Full details of our remote learning provision can be found here:

<https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CV-19-Online-Remote-Learning-and-Communication-Information-for-Parents.pdf>.

This document also contains information should you require support with a device, internet access or experience any difficulties.

Free School Meals

Any pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals (this does not include Infant Universal Free School Meals) will receive food vouchers via email. If your child is attending school and Caterlink are serving dinners as normal, you will not receive the vouchers as your child will have their meal in school. I will confirm this once I am able to.

This is not the start of the New Year that we had all hoped for but it is vital we continue to do all we can to keep our school community safe during these challenging times.

At this time, we expect closures to be in place until Friday 15th January with further Government guidance expected before Monday 18th January. I will continue to update you as I receive further information.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs K. Hart
Head teacher