



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sorry to have to write to you at this late hour.

As you are no doubt aware, our Prime Minister has announced a full lockdown, starting tomorrow. This is a very worrying time for us all and my thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you as we go through this time together.

The lateness of the government's recent announcement has made it extremely difficult to plan our next steps in a timely way. Throughout the Christmas break, Surrey heads were told to plan for full opening and this was what I have been doing for the past week. Moving back to the full lockdown model, with less than 24 hours notice, is logistically very challenging, and I ask for your understanding as we all try to deal with events that are out of our control.

I have spoken to our Chair of Governors, and other members of SLT, and we have decided that, on Tuesday 5th January, school will only be open to the key critical workers in these categories:

Health and social care

This includes 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

Children with EHCP plans

If you are a critical worker in one of these categories and will be sending your child into school tomorrow, you must email Mrs Brinicombe, on deputy@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk by 6 00am on

5th January. This will help us to plan our bubbles on Tuesday. Please also send your child into school with a packed lunch.

Parents in other critical worker categories should keep their children at home on Tuesday, 5th January. Further communication will be sent home by the end of the day to parents of children in these categories. This will give us time to plan our Key worker bubbles, make sure that our site is safe, and organise staffing and our remote learning offer.

Earlier today, all parents were sent a letter including a Google Form to request critical worker provision. Please do not complete this form if you do not fall into this category.

Work is currently on Seesaw and children should commence this work as soon as possible. We will be moving to our full remote learning offer over the next two days. Further information will follow.

I am extremely sorry to have to write to you in this way. I am a working parent myself and I know how frustrating this is. We are doing all we can, as quickly as we can, and once again I ask for your patience.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Catherine G. Wand".

Mrs Wand

Headteacher