

Urgent Parent Bulletin - 31st December 2020

Dear Parent/Carers (Year R - Year 6),

Due to yesterday's government announcement please note the following important updates:

1. Critical workers and vulnerable pupils

Please visit the following government website to see if you are eligible to meet the critical worker and/or vulnerable pupil criteria:

<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 do meet the criteria, the government has stated that your child can attend school from Monday 4th January. It is important that you inform the school if you meet the criteria.

Eligible parents must respond to the ParentMail survey by tomorrow Friday 1st January 12.00pm - please check the FORMS section of the ParentMail app

All other children who do not meet the above criteria will be educated remotely from home. More information is provided in the Home Learning section of this bulletin.

If your child will be attending school from Monday 4th January and requires extended day care before or after school please contact Wright Education on 07852137462 or email office@wrighteducationuk.com

2.School Gates

If your child is attending school on site from Monday 4th January please note that only the following gates will be open for access:

- Nursery gates on Buxton Road
- Class 12 gate on Gurney Road by the school office
- Infant playground gate on Gurney Road

3.Free School Meals

We will be providing supermarket vouchers for pupils who are eligible for free school meals. These will be sent via email and/or text via Wonde. The vouchers will take a few days to process and eligible parents will therefore receive these by the end of next week.

4.Home learning

If you are not a critical worker or do not have a vulnerable child, your child will be learning remotely from home. Teachers will set work for your child on a daily basis on Google Classroom from Monday 4th January and we are asking that you support them with carrying out the tasks as much as possible in order to minimise disruption to learning and progress. Please be reminded that completing remote learning is not optional and **is a legal requirement**.

We feel it is important for pupils to have regular contact with their classmates and teachers. We will therefore be organising virtual meetings for each year group from Tuesday 5th January. During this meeting, a register will be taken in accordance with the Department for Education policy and therefore it is compulsory that your child logs on to the meeting. The meeting will also be an opportunity for the teacher to explain work for the day and answer any queries. If your child is unable to log on, for example due to illness, please inform the school office as per the normal procedure. Further details about meeting times and how to join the meeting will be sent out on Monday.

We have a record of those families who have informed us that they do not have a device or have difficulties accessing the internet. We will get in touch with those who have informed us of this on Monday to organise devices where possible.

All children should already have brought their Google Classroom login details home. If you are unable to log in though, please email info@maryland.newham.sch.uk.

5.Hygiene

We will be resuming our hygiene routines and protocols which include scanning your child's temperature at the gates with a handheld infrared thermometer. Please note that this is one method that we are using to mitigate the risk of pupils entering the school premises with the virus. This however should not solely be relied upon as other precautions should be prioritised such as following the **daily declaration** as stated in the previous newsletter:

"I am sending my child to school today because I can confirm and reassure the school that:

- 1. There is no one in the house with symptoms of Covid: dry continuous cough or with a high fever of temp over 37.8 degrees or loss of taste and smell*
- 2. There is no one who has tested positive with Covid in the last 14 days in the household"*

If any of the statements above become untrue, your child should stay at home with you until their period of isolation is complete. We will not be asking you to report the Daily Declaration verbally to us every day as this will cause congestion which we need to avoid. We trust that you follow the request above for everyone's safety.