

This information is intended to supplement our COVID 19 risk assessments, last updated on 11.01.2021 which are the foundation for all decision making. The safety of staff and children is the most important consideration in determining the number of children we can accommodate in school during lockdown.

Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, as this will protect the NHS and save lives.

The school has a responsibility to continue to provide an education for all children during lockdown. This will be remotely for most children and in school for children of **critical workers**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#critical-workers> and **vulnerable pupils** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#vulnerable-children-and-young-people> .

The school will prioritize spaces for families of critical workers where parents cannot work from home. Parents will be asked to supply evidence from their employer that they must travel to their place of work and cannot work from home. Places for vulnerable pupils will be risk assessed with those children currently with an allocated social worker or family support worker offered places first. Other pupils who come under the vulnerable definition will be offered places if they cannot safely be looked after at home.

All parents/carers were emailed on Tuesday 5th January asking them to register for school lockdown places with a deadline of 9:00hrs on Wednesday 6th January. Critical workers were asked to provide evidence from their employer that they had to go into work and could not work from home. Places were then allocated according to need. Anyone who was late applying for a place was given as many days as school could accommodate.

Health and safety measures in school January 2021

The school will provide the following class bubbles which uses all staff to capacity.

Y6 – One bubble of 15

Y5 – Two bubbles of 15

Y4 – One bubble of 15

Y3 – Two bubbles of 15

Y1/2 – One bubble of 15

EYFS – One bubble of 15

Our COIN centre will open for children with an EHCP following individual risk assessments and staffing levels. The school will open from 8:00hrs until 16:00hrs each day to give an extended school day. Children will be asked to arrive between 8:00am and 9:00hrs to give a staggered start and children will be collected either at 15:00hrs, 15:30hrs and 16:00hrs to stagger pick up time.

Any staff working in school will stay in one “bubble” and will be expected to follow all school procedures as set out in our COVID 19 risk assessment. Even with the reduced number of staff, we will continue to stagger break and lunchtimes and ensure that only one class bubble is on certain areas of the playground at a time. We have asked all parents to send their child to school with their own hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes. During lockdown, each child will have their own desk and their resources kept in a tray on their desk to avoid the need to move around the classroom. Children in KS2 may wear their own facemask if their parents would like them to. Staff will help them manage putting it on and taking it off. Staff working in school may also choose to wear a face covering in the classroom if they feel reassured it will give them extra protection.

Staffing

All staff are expected to come to work unless they can work from home. In this school it is teachers, the School Business Manager and our Home School Link Worker who can work from home. Staff working in school will be asked to adjust their working pattern to fit in with our new operational timings. Where possible staffing hours will be rounded down. If staff who are only able to carry out their duties in school choose not to come into work during this time, they can request unpaid leave. Any staff who are extremely critically vulnerable and have received a shielding letter from their doctor will not be expected to work in school. Staff in their third trimester of pregnancy will also not be expected to come into school to work.

Teachers will work from home (as they are able to) providing remote learning, feedback, and support to families. HLTAs, TAs and SNAs will work in school supporting the learning planned for by the teachers. Teachers will be asked to work in school for one or two days each week to provide support to staff working in class bubbles.

Allsorts staff will be asked to run the drop off and pick-up times for pupils as well as midday supervision. This will ensure a lunch break for staff working in class bubbles.

Remote learning

The DFE issued updated non-statutory guidance in January stating that there is an increased expectation for remote education schools need to provide for students at home. This includes:

- An increase in the number of hours of remote learning provided.
- The inclusion of recorded or live direct teaching.
- The selection of a digital platform for remote education that will be used consistently across the school. The platform must allow interaction, assessment and feedback and schools must ensure staff are “trained and confident” in its use”.

Our contingency plan for remote learning was put in place in September 2020 after the school Governors had agreed it. This has now been updated to reflect the fact that teachers are working from home and are able to provide work and support learning from 8:00hrs until 16:00hrs each day. The school uses a blended approach to teaching using our Seesaw platform. Teachers provide daily lessons for Maths and English with video inputs for the lessons. All lessons and activities are uploaded each day with the expectation that children spend between three and four hours each day working. The School will also provide at least two live sessions each week so that teachers and pupils can see and talk to each other. Parents were emailed a guide to remote learning on Thursday 7th January and the full contingency plan for home learning can be found on the School website. All pupils will be following the same learning whether at home or in school. In KS2, most children should be able to work independently although younger children will often need the support of a parent or carer.

In September 2020, all parents were asked if they had the necessary technology at home to support remote learning. Five families did not so the School sought charitable funding to provide those families with a computer. Some families asked for paper packs as their children work better on paper. The School will provide a paper pack for any families that need it with the expectation that all work is completed and returned to School each week for marking and feedback. The School will continue to support families who are finding it hard to access the remote learning, recognising that many families must share computers between more than one person.

Wellbeing

The mental health and wellbeing of pupils, staff and families remain very important to our school. Teachers will keep in contact with all families via Seesaw and will keep a register of engagement with learning. Where engagement drops staff will contact parents with a welfare call and offer support. Sue Marsh, Home School Link Worker, will also be able to support families with advice, signposting and a friendly ear. The school will send a weekly newsletter during lockdown with information and advice for families.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Where children are eligible for FSM, they will either be provided with a midday meal if they are in school or a food bag or voucher during lockdown. Families will also be signposted to Foodbank or the Hale “Community Fridge & Cupboard”.