



Bluebell Park School

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Dear Parents, Carers and Families.

We hope this letter finds you well. The Prime Minister announced a full lockdown of England for this half term in the 8pm briefing yesterday. We did not know this in advance – we found out when you did. The guidance from the Department for Education to schools was then sent to us at 11pm. Again, I would like to apologise for the late correspondence from school in regards to this.

We have a slight increase in the number of staff that want to follow union guidance and work from home. We are adjusting the plans so that we can still support the families that have stated they want their child to be onsite. This will allow for face to face learning and also remote learning for those pupils not on site. The remote learning offer will be consistent. The on-site school will be dependent on staffing. If we hit a critical number for any class on any day, it will need to move to the remote learning offer.

The first day for pupils is tomorrow, 6th January 2021. We will formally review this plan on 15th January 2021 but will be assessing on a daily basis.

On-Site Cohort: 124 pupils are coming on-site.

- Your child's bubble will remain the same for this week.
- We need to continue our bubble safety measures. We previously covered across a bubble but do not have that flexibility with the number of staff that will not be coming to the school building.
- If we hit a critical number of absences, your class will move to remote learning, unless your child is the child of a keyworker, on a 'child protection' caseload, a 'Looked After Child' or a 'child in need' status.
- If you drop off/pick up your child – you must wear a face mask and socially distance with the cones outside. We cannot let you into the building without a face mask until the senior leaders are present. Please do not arrive early.
- We are planning on setting up Lateral testing during next week for staff wanting to be tested and we will keep you fully informed with the progress of this. Plans are to begin with staff and slowly include pupils class by class. Parents of children aged 11-19 will need to complete a consent form for lateral testing which will be sent via email over the coming weeks. You do not have to agree to the lateral testing but must state this on the form.
- Inform us and call 111 if your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19 – they should not come to school to avoid any risk of transmission.



Remote Learning Cohort: 78 pupils

- Your child's class teacher is currently the same.
- The teacher will send you home-learning e.g. a timetable, social story and any additional information later in the week. Learning will come to you electronically via an Evidence For Learning App.
 - If you need any technical support with Evidence for Learning – please inform your child's teacher and we will do what we can to help.
- If your child receives free school meals you will receive a separate letter with your food voucher details.
- Please inform us if your child develops symptoms so that we can process this in the way we did previously.
 - If your child travels with Local Authority transport – **you need to contact them to let them know not to be picked up**. Knowsley Travel will pick-up as normal unless you have been informed.

The school reception is open and the senior leadership team is on site. If you have any questions, call 0151 477 8350 or email Bluebell Park: Bluebell.Park@knowsley.gov.uk

We are trying our best to make this work. We have limited additional resources to respond to this complex picture. Thank you for supporting us as we respond swiftly with the government changes.

Yours sincerely,

Lexley McTigue, Chair of Governors and Michelle Slater

