



The White Rose Federation

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4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Apologies for the late night correspondence, but we felt that it was important to respond to the government's announcement that we are entering a full lockdown starting from tomorrow.

You have already received a text stating that each school within the federation will be open tomorrow for all key worker children and vulnerable children. At this point in time, it is our intention to keep each school open during this lockdown to allow our children to stay within their normal setting and for parents to drop off without having to navigate the winter road conditions to a central school. Understandably, this depends upon how many children need to access childcare provision and how many staff are able to work due to personal circumstances or self-isolation through contact with infected persons.

To help us to organise this effectively, we would appreciate it if you would email your base school admin email address to share whether you would like to take a key worker/vulnerable child place or whether you will be keeping your child at home. **We ask that all parents respond to this.** This can be a full-time or part-time place, depending on need and we will still be able to offer wraparound care provision. You will need to drop off and pick up your child in the same way, adhering to the current safety measures and your child will need to wear their school uniform as normal.

We are hopeful that we will be able to offer hot meals at school and support families using vouchers who qualify for free school meals. We are currently waiting to see how the government respond to this and we will notify you in due course.

Online learning will begin on Wednesday, using Tapestry for our EYFS children, and Seesaw for years 1-6. Further information will be sent home to all parents tomorrow, along with a reminder of the log-in details for your child. We have listened to online learning feedback from the previous lockdown and we intend to streamline this to make it more manageable, with short, sharp sessions rather than hours of screen learning.

In terms of what constitutes a 'vulnerable child', it is a grey area. At our federation, we believe that vulnerable also relates to a child, or parent, who may be at risk mentally due to the stress of lockdown. If you feel that this category relates to you or your family, please book your child in for a school place.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Unfortunately, we had no prior warning from the government that this was going to be the intended outcome of the 8:00pm meeting and we are doing our best to update you and offer the provision that you and your family may need. Further clarification will be sent to you this week as soon as further guidance is published by the government.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne MacDonald
Executive Headteacher

Rev. Anna Burr
Co-Chair of Governors

Jenny Brown
Co-Chair of Governors