



Isaac Newton Primary School

Headteacher: Mr C Heathcote

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Dear Parent/ Carer

The Prime Minister announced last night that schools will now move to remote learning for the vast majority of pupils until at least February half term. This means that only children whose parents are critical workers or those who are classed as 'vulnerable' will continue to attend school for face-to-face learning.

A list detailing information about critical workers can be found on our school website at:

https://isaacnewton.eschools.co.uk/website/critical_worker_list/530458. A child is classed as 'vulnerable', if they have an EHCP or involvement with a social worker. We have already contacted all Parents/ Carers whose children are classed as vulnerable.

What will happen if my child is eligible to attend school?

For those children who are eligible to attend school we will be forming 'phase bubbles'. This will mean that children will be in consistent groups with consistent adults to ensure that we are able to keep the mixing of different children and adults to a minimum. The bubbles will be as follows:

EYFS: in Class 1 (Miss McEvoy/ Mrs Fulcher's classroom)

Years 1 and 2: in Class 5 (Miss Freeman's classroom)

Years 3 and 4: in Class 10 (Mrs Moorcroft's classroom)

Year 5 and 6: in class 13 (Mrs Robert's classroom)

These classes will be run by groups of 2-3 teaching assistants who will support pupils in accessing the online learning that teachers will be providing to all children via Microsoft Teams. Mr Heathcote and Mrs Pask will also be onsite, as well as one member of teaching staff from each phase. The school day will begin at 8.50am and will finish at 3.20pm. Children should be collected and dropped off via external classroom doors. If your child is in EYFS then this will take place at the playground gate as has been the case previously.

If your child is entitled to free school meals or is in Key Stage One then they will be provided with a packed lunch by the school. Should you prefer your child to bring their own packed lunch then please can we ask that you inform us of this. All other children will need to bring their own packed lunch with them. All children will be required to wear normal school uniform and we will let each bubble know when they require PE kit once we have finalised our timetabling.

If you are a critical worker, please ensure that you have completed the online booking form by the Friday before each week at the very latest! This will enable us to ensure that there is a space available for your child. Children will need to attend for the full day if they are booked in. The current booking form link is: <http://bit.ly/ins6jan>.

What will happen if my child is not eligible to attend school?

For those children who are to remain at home, we will be providing remote learning. Further information will go home over the next few days regarding this. There is already lots of information on our school website under the 'Remote Learning' Section, including letters that have been sent out previously and parent guides about how to access various resources. We are using Microsoft Teams to provide remote learning so please can you ensure that you have your child's login and password. If you do not have this then please contact the school as soon as possible and we will provide you with them. For the remainder of this week, work will be made available via Microsoft Teams and teachers will be able to answer questions and queries via the 'chat' function. From Monday 11th January, teachers will begin to provide a number of 'live sessions' for the children. A timetable of learning will be sent out over the coming days. For the time being, please can children complete the work that has been uploaded onto Microsoft Teams for them.





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What is expected of Parents/ Carers?

It is an expectation that all pupils will engage with all aspects of remote learning just as they would do with their learning in school. Teachers and senior staff will be monitoring whether work has been accessed and completed. When this is not the case staff will be following this up with Parents/ Carers to ascertain the reasons why and remove any potential barriers to learning. We would ask that Parents/ Carers set a clear routine with their child using the suggested timetable and the daily tasks set on Microsoft Teams. They should support them to complete all of the learning set and liaise with school staff to seek support on behalf of their child when needed.

What can families do if they do not have access to an electronic device or the internet at home?

The school has access to a number of dongles and sim cards which will be used to provide internet access to any families who are without this. We can also provide laptops to those who do not have access to a suitable device at home. At present we are limiting this to one device per household as we only have access to a limited number of laptops. We have however, made sure that our remote learning can be accessed using any device including a smart phone. **Please inform the school as soon as possible, if you do not have the ability to access remote learning so that suitable arrangements can be made.** In the event of a pupil being loaned IT hardware the school will ask the Parent/ Carer to sign an 'Acceptable Use Agreement' and will look to provide equipment within 1-2 days.

Will children be sent home with any work or resources?

As we were not aware of school closures until 8pm last night, we were not able to send children home with any resources. Should your child require a stationary pack (which includes basic stationary such as pencils, a ruler, a rubber, a sharpener and colouring crayons) or an exercise book or paper then please contact the school regarding this and we can arrange for you to collect these. Children do not need printed copies of worksheets to access the home learning and we will not always be able to provide these. Instead children can complete their work in an exercise book or on paper, copying from the worksheet on their device. They can also complete work/ worksheets on Microsoft Teams and submit this electronically for their teacher to check

Will I receive supermarket vouchers if I am entitled to Free School Meals (Pupil Premium)?

At present, we will not be sending supermarket vouchers out as before. Instead we will be providing food boxes. An email will go out to eligible Parents/ Carers over the next few days explaining this. We will be asking eligible families to inform us if they would like to receive a food box. One weekly food box will be available for each child and will need to be collected from the school on an agreed day. We will provide more information regarding this once we have sorted out the necessary arrangements with our school provider, Ideal Meals. There will be no option at present to receive supermarket vouchers.

Further information will continue to be sent home over the coming days so please ensure that you have downloaded and logged into the E-Schools app to ensure that you are receiving all of our communications. We will also continue to post updates on Facebook and the school website.

We are now requesting that all Parents/ Carers wear a face covering whilst on the school site unless they are medically exempt. If you chose for your child to also wear a face covering then please can you ensure that this is removed prior to them entering the school building. This will be the case until further notice.

Should you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind regards

Mr Heathcote

