



Thursday 31st December 2020

COVID-19 Update

School closure from Tuesday 5th January to Friday 15th January

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from the letter sent out to parents yesterday we can now confirm that only the children of critical workers and children defined as vulnerable will be able to attend school from Tuesday 5th January until Friday 15th January.

The guidance can be read here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-contingency-framework-for-education-and-childcare-settings?utm_source=15f791ab-c8f6-4bd5-83d3-fb94868b91d0&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

The school now needs to ascertain how many children of critical workers and how many vulnerable children will be attending school over the next two weeks. Please see the definitions (as provided by the government) below. If your child falls into one of these categories and you need them to attend school, please **email** the school office **as soon as possible** office@sttheresas.barnetmail.net.

Children of Critical Workers

A critical worker is defined as someone whose work is critical to the coronavirus response. This includes those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined below:

- Education and childcare
- Key public services
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

The full list can be found here:

<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>

If, after checking the guidance, you are considered a critical worker, and need to send your child to school please email the school office as soon as possible; you must inform



us of which critical worker category you (and/or your partner if you are a two parent family) belong to.

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services
 - those living in temporary accommodation, those who are young carers
 - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)

If your child is a vulnerable child, and you wish for them to attend school from Tuesday 5th January, please email the school as soon as possible:

office@sttheresas.barnetmail.net

Tuesday 5th January

If you are a critical worker and your child will be attending school, or your child is a vulnerable child and they will be attending school, please note the following:

- the school day will be 8.45am – 3pm
- children may wear their own clothes (no school uniform)
- they will need to bring a packed lunch

Children not entitled to attend school from Tuesday 5th January

If your child arrives at school on Tuesday and s/he is not in the vulnerable children group, or you are not a critical worker, we will contact you to come and collect them.

The school will be providing remote learning for all other pupils, further details will follow.

If you have any further questions, please do email the school office.

Thank you,

Barbara Costa

Barbara Costa
Executive Headteacher