

5th January 2021

Dear parent/carer,

As we are once again in a national lockdown, we wanted to contact you to clarify the position of our school relating to on-site and remote learning. The government states that 'schools act as vectors for transmission, causing the virus to spread between households' and that we should once again 'stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives.'

With this in mind, we plan to move to our New Schooling Offer 2.

This will be individualised to each child and will include either a full virtual and remote learning offer or a face-to-face school-based offer. It's important to state that the school-based offer will be very different to your child's usual (on site) learning experience and may involve changed groupings, new staff and different organisations. Our remote and virtual learning offer will continue to be led by our outstanding staff team. We will ensure that EHCP objectives are met for your child, whether they are based on-site or at home. We will be in touch soon with an overview of that offer and to arrange for your child to have their iPad at home, if it isn't with you already.

Our priority continues to be the safety of our pupils, our families and our staff teams, therefore this offer will commence on Thursday 7th January. This will allow us a further day to undertake the complex task of planning for the safe return of pupils accessing a school-based offer.

Our schools will remain open for those children and young people in the following categories, where appropriate:

1. Children of Key Workers/Critical Workers
2. Children open to social workers
3. Children who the school or family require face to face support
4. Children identified as "vulnerable" by the Local Authority

Many of you have already completed our survey sent out earlier in this week. If you requested that you would like a place, or informed us that you were a critical worker, we will be sending you a further survey to enable us to confirm your place. Please ensure you complete this survey by 4 o'clock today.

If your child is entitled to free school meals and will be staying at home, we will be in touch with further information shortly.

We are continuing to explore the roll out of lateral flow testing on-site. Further information will follow.

Thank you for your support during this extremely difficult and unprecedented time. As always, we will continue to keep in touch with you regularly to ensure that your child receives the best possible education and support at this time and to keep you updated with any changes.

In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact jlatham@newbridgegroup.org or rsoltyk@newbridgegroup.org We will ensure these are passed directly onto me.

Yours faithfully

Gavin Lyons