



Chelwood Nursery School

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Headteacher: Nikki Oldhams B.Ed (Hons) M.A. NPQH

Saturday 2 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Update regarding the government announcement for schools

On 1st January 2021, schools in Lewisham were directed to remain closed after the Christmas holiday to the majority of pupils, due to the extremely high COVID19 infection rate within our borough. We understand that this decision will be reviewed by the government on 18th January, in line with the latest information on infection rates at that time.

The advice to schools is that where possible parents keep children at home, where the risk of infection is significantly reduced, to protect children staff and reduce the spread of infection in the community.

We will be following government expectations that only **children of critical workers** and **vulnerable pupils who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)**; those **with an assigned Social Worker** or **other circumstances listed at the link below** can attend school during this time.

In line with LA guidance, we ask that in two parent households where only one parent is a critical worker that children are kept at home as this will help to reduce the infection rate more quickly.

The identified list of vulnerable children and critical workers can be found using the link below:

[Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools](#)

This information was circulated to families in the Autumn term, when you were asked to provide information about critical worker status should such a situation arise. We will be using the information you have previously provided to plan staffing and catering so that we can give your children the best possible care at this difficult time. We will contact all those of you who have already identified yourselves as critical workers by Monday.

If your circumstances have changed since completing the survey in October 2020 please let me know **no later than 10am on Monday 4th January** using the form available via this link:

<https://forms.gle/q3vT72NxKkXsCqu49>

School will be closed to all children on Monday 4th January to allow us to put plans in place for these new arrangements. You must not bring your child to school until you have heard from us.

Please note that at this stage we cannot provide wraparound provision, (Breakfast or After School Club). This will however be under review.

Further information about remote provision for **all** children during this period will be sent out on Monday.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nikki Oldhams".

Nikki Oldhams
Headteacher
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