

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Beechwood Road, Dalston E8 3DY

Tel: 0207 254 1010 • email: admin@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Catherine Thomas • Finance and Admin Manager: Kathleen Payne



Saturday 2nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well. May I begin by wishing you a Happy New Year from everyone at Holy Trinity, we look forward to seeing you all very soon.

I am writing to inform you that since the government's initial announcement that Hackney primary schools would be remaining open, they have now announced that primary schools in Hackney, and across London, should move to remote, online learning, rather than physically opening our doors at the start of term. Currently, the government has not specified a date for when schools can reopen but our assumption is that the remote arrangements will be in place for the first two weeks of term before being reviewed. However, we need to wait for further government guidance to know for sure and will update you in due course.

While the decision has been made to keep everybody safe, which is the top priority, we know it will cause disappointment for children and potential difficulties for parents and carers with childcare and work. However I would like to reassure you on a few key points:

- We will be remaining open to 'vulnerable' children and the children of critical workers. If you are a critical worker and need your child to attend school please complete this form as soon as possible but by 11am on Monday 4th January at the latest:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5XSrzyIOy8Qbldb2erD2ZOKtJnZHWHpRq4tPW061sng-Ww/viewform>

If you are unsure whether your child qualifies, as a child of a critical worker please complete the form with your profession included and we will be in touch. If you are a critical worker but can provide sufficient childcare to enable your child to access online learning at home please do so.

- We will **no longer have our INSET day on Tuesday 5th January** but we will move that to later in the school year (Monday 22nd February), this will allow us to have 'vulnerable' children and the children of critical workers back at school from Tuesday 5th January.
- If you are unable to gain access to Google Classroom using your child's log in (Nursery - Year 6) then please contact us on Tuesday 5th January. We will be able to support any queries coming in from families.
- Remote learning will begin with the register through a Google Meet with children at 9am on Wednesday 6th January we will share further information with you as to how this will work on Monday. Along with a proposed timetable for the days ahead.
- School uniforms should be worn by children who are attending school.
- When we contact families on Monday we will provide further information regarding wraparound care (breakfast club and extended day), drop and collection arrangements.

We have had a lot of practice now with remote learning and received overwhelming praise and support from families in the last lockdown therefore please be assured we will continue to do our utmost to maintain a positive and productive experience for children. We will create and embed the daily routine which includes the reassurance for children of 'seeing' their teachers and classmates on Google Meet, but without the pressure or screen time involved with replicating the whole timetable. The day will include online lessons and independent work with a break between every lesson, to create balance for children and parents.

It is important that children participate every day from their homes, unless they are unwell, in which case parents should contact the school as normal. If you have any problems regarding computing facilities or internet access, we are here to help; please contact the school office straightaway so that we can assist you.

I know that after a difficult and challenging year with coronavirus, not being able to open to all children will cause further disruption to families. However, with Covid cases at a record high and a new variant of the virus spreading at a faster rate, we will continue to do all we can to keep our community safe which is the top priority. We will of course keep you updated through letters that will be emailed out but if you have serious concerns please contact the school office and we will do our best to help. The phone number is 02072541010 and the email address is admin@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk

In the meantime, stay safe, follow the guidance and we look forward to reopening when it is safe to do so.

Kind Regards,



Catherine Thomas
Interim Headteacher