

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are all well and have had a lovely holiday with your children.

As you will now be aware the government announced tonight that schools will close from the morning of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January and everyone wherever possible needs to stay at home.

School will only be open for children of critical workers if they are unable to be cared for at home and our children from vulnerable families.

If you fall into the critical worker category then please complete the attached form and email as soon as possible to the school office ([info@whitburnvillage.s-tyeside.sch.uk](mailto:info@whitburnvillage.s-tyeside.sch.uk)).

The list of 'critical workers' was updated by government on 31/12/20 and can be found on their website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk). The list of workers includes:

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

Parents and carers of vulnerable pupils will be contacted directly by school staff tomorrow (Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and have Education, Health and Care Plans.)

As in previous lockdowns we ask that every **child who can be safely cared for at home should be.** Remote learning will be available for all pupils – staff will use Google Classroom.

For children who will be attending school please continue to contact school if your child has any COVID symptoms and you are taking them for a test. Inform us as soon as possible of any test result (positive or negative). It is essential that emergency contact details are up to date for all pupils. If your child has been in contact with a positive case, they MUST isolate for ten days and they must not enter the school site.

We request that adults wear a mask when picking up or dropping off their child to reduce the risk of transmission. Can I please ask that all adults comply with this request. Can we request that only one adult per household drop off or collect from the school at any one time.

We understand the timing of this announcement has been difficult and a challenge for everyone and to support parents/carers we will still offer a breakfast club on Tuesday morning for the children of critical worker and our children of vulnerable families. Breakfast club will then cease and there will be no after school clubs until further notice.

This is going to be another challenging term for us all. We will continue to put your child's safety and education at the forefront in all that we do. We will continue to follow the guidance from public health, the Department for Education and the Government.

Thank you for your continued support and for the well wishes and messages we have received over the Christmas break. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to email or ring school

All my very best wishes and I sincerely wish you all a Happy New Year.

Alison Burden and all staff and governors.

**COVID-19 Critical Worker Form**

**January 2021**

<b>Child's name</b>		<b>D.O.B.</b>	
<b>Year Group</b>		<b>Class</b>	
<b>Child's name</b>		<b>D.O.B.</b>	
<b>Year Group</b>		<b>Class</b>	
<b>Child's name</b>		<b>D.O.B.</b>	
<b>Year Group</b>		<b>Class</b>	
<b>Parent 1 Name</b>		<b>Occupation</b>	
<b>Place of work</b>		<b>Full time/Part time (please delete as necessary)</b>	
<b>Parent 2 Name</b>		<b>Occupation</b>	
<b>Place of work</b>		<b>Full time/Part time (please delete as necessary)</b>	

I confirm that my/my partner's work is critical to the COVID-19 response

I do not have other childcare available

<b>Print Your Name</b>	
<b>Date</b>	