



The Laurels
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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10th January 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you have had a relaxing weekend. With your support, our children have made an excellent start to their online learning. It is testament to the high calibre of staff and leaders who worked very late into the evenings to enable our children to start live lessons last week. We have so appreciated the messages of support and thanks that many of you have sent in. We also appreciate the impact of this new extended lockdown on you and your family and will continue to do all that we can to work with you to support learning and well-being.

This weekend, you may have seen the Government has changed the information regarding Critical Worker spaces for children at schools. This is in response to the significant number of children attending schools across the country.

Government advice from Friday evening says children of critical workers with a school place should only attend school if their parents/carers cannot work from home. If you are a key worker and are working from home, your child should stay at home with you if possible. If only one parent in a 2-parent household is a key worker, your child should stay at home with the parent who is not attending their place of work. We will continue to support all children to learn from home.

There have also been changes to the roles identified as 'critical worker'. The full information, and updated details of critical workers, 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>

We apologise for these changes, but I am sure you understand that these have not been made by the school, but by the Government. All of the latest statistics about the number of local cases and hospitalisation tell us that we have to do everything we can to cut the number of contacts that our children, parents and staff have.

Thank you for your continued support; our strong partnership between home and school continues to keep us in a strong position as we all respond and adapt to these most recent government directions. If there is anything that we can do for you, please don't hesitate to ask.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Bull