



Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN

"Promoting a love of learning"



5th January, 2021

Guidance for Parents Re: Covid-19 Coronavirus

January Lockdown

Update 1: Critical Worker and Vulnerable Children

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As you will know, schools in England will be closed from Tuesday 5th January until further notice.

Following the Government's announcement at 8pm yesterday evening, we are aiming to put appropriate provision in place for the children of Critical Workers. To do this, we require honest and transparent information from parents who meet the Critical Worker criteria and (in order to carry out their critical work) **have no other option but to send their children to school.**

The definition of a Critical Worker can be found in the information provided by the government in the link below. Please read this very carefully: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We must stress that all children will receive the same remote learning whether they are in school or at home. Remote learning will be vastly different to that received in the first lockdown, with staff more accessible online. School will open to children from 8.45pm – 3.15pm with some limited places at our breakfast club from 8.00am.

You should only request a place if at least one parent is a Critical Worker AND there is no other option available to you regarding care for your child. **We must stress that the critical worker provision is there for those parents who cannot manage their children's learning at home because of their work commitments. If there is a parent who doesn't work, even if the other parent is a critical worker, you should keep your child(ren) at home.** The safety of the children and staff at school is paramount and we want to keep as many people at home as we possibly can. With the vaccination process underway, we do not want to undo all of the good work which has been achieved so far.

If either or both parents fall into any of the categories outlined by the government, and you wish to be considered for a place at school, then please e-mail mainoffice@beestonprimary.org by 12.00pm on Wednesday 6th January, with some proof of your current employment; this can be in the form of wage slip/contract/letter headed paper/ID badge. In accordance with GDPR this information will not be saved on our system and will be deleted immediately.

So that we can ensure our records are up to date and make contact with you to confirm a place, please include up to date phone numbers and email contact addresses for both parents or carers.

Headteacher Mr. N. Edensor

Tel. No. 0113 2716978

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Once we have collated this information and have an idea of the number of children eligible for a place at school we will be in touch with parents again to confirm places and outline logistics. For those parents who work a shift pattern, places will be offered on a full time basis but your child does not need to attend each day if you are able to keep them at home. Places are not guaranteed and you may find yourself on a waiting list but we will do our very best to ensure that we support our families and critical workers through this challenging time.

Parents of Children in Nursery

We had already made the decision to close our non-statutory provision for Nursery children from Tuesday 5th January. However, if you are defined as a critical worker then we may now be in a position to support your child with their education, along with those children of school age.

Children entitled to Free School Meals

Leeds City Council have been working with schools across the city to make plans to provide lunches for those pupils who are entitled to free school meals. Further information about how this system will operate for families at Beeston Primary School will follow as soon as we have it.

Children with Special Educational Needs

Our Inclusion Team have been busy making plans so that we can appropriately support those pupils who have Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Our staff will contact Parents and Carers of those pupils.

Home Learning

We have been very busy in school since September improving our systems for delivering remote learning to our pupils. Staff and pupils have been learning how to use Microsoft Teams and we are really excited to launch this platform. We know that it will significantly improve the level of teacher input and opportunities for personal feedback as well as further motivate and engage pupils to learn at home. Please bear with us while we put the final things into place and we will be in touch with more information over the coming days. For this week, please support your child to access the remote learning section on the school website. Teachers will soon be in touch via telephone to offer support and guidance and answer any questions. They will also ensure that your child has their logon details for Microsoft Teams which will be used to support remote learning from Monday 11th January. Please be mindful that this call will be from a withheld number.

Technology to support with Remote Learning

School has been granted a number of laptops which will be distributed to those families most in need of them. These will be to support children to learn at home as there will no longer be an option to collect paper-based learning packs from the school office. Further information on this will follow and those families who have previously indicated that they will need support will be contacted directly. We thank you for your patience while our school I.T. technician works hard to ensure the laptops are set up and ready to be used in a home environment.

Forward Planning

Once again, thank you so much for your patience and support as we plan to support you and the community to the very best of our ability. As you will appreciate, we are working in an incredibly challenging and ever changing climate, but rest assured our amazing team at Beeston Primary School will continue to respond and do all we can to look after our school community. Please ensure that you

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keep a close eye on our school webpage <https://www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk/> as we will be communicating any changes and updates to you via this platform. We will also send out a text message to alert you as well as updating our school Facebook page where possible.

Please look after each other and stay safe.

Best wishes,

The Senior Leadership Team

Mr N. Edensor
Headteacher

Mrs B. Tidey
Senior Deputy Headteacher

Mr S Nicholson
Deputy Headteacher