

Headteacher
Mrs Sophie Gosden



Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

As I am sure you are only too aware, yesterday the prime minister introduced a new national lockdown. This means our school will remain closed to all pupils except the vulnerable and the children of key workers. We have been told that this will be reviewed by the Government for the February half term.

We will continue to provide remote teaching and learning for all of our pupils who are not in school. You are already getting in touch with your teachers using the help@emails if you need it and most children are online already working. I will send a more detailed letter to you towards the end of the week about exactly what we will be doing to keep in touch with you all and what our remote teaching will look like, as we hope we have used the last lockdown experience to improve things. You all have a lot to cope with at the moment, juggling home life, work life and trying to become teachers overnight and I admire you all greatly for coping with it. Some of you have been in touch about devices and we are looking into how we might be able to provide some for families in most need if we are able to. Please bear with us, we are doing our best to organise that and will see what demand looks like once teachers have phoned home. Obviously, resources are very limited and we haven't been given any funding or free devices despite what has been in the media.

If your child is in the vulnerable pupil or key worker priority group and you wish them to attend school you should have already informed us. Please note that the need for social distancing, smaller group sizes and other COVID 19 mitigations means that places are restricted. If we have more pupils wanting places than we can safely accommodate then the Kemnal Academies Trust has advised us that we should prioritise and/or rota places. If we need to do this we will let you know, but at the moment, we do not need to and I thank you all for only taking spaces if you need them. It is truly appreciated. If your child is attending school, teachers are broadly following the same curriculum as those pupils who are being taught remotely.

For those pupils entitled to free school meals, we will be sending out arrangements shortly. It will look like a voucher scheme again as far as I understand at this point and we are doing our best to get the confirmation we need to set it up again.

Headteacher



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I share your disappointment that we have not been able to return our school to its normal happy thriving place for all pupils and understand the challenges that families will face during this lockdown. The staff and I have already been overwhelmed by the kindness and support that you have shown us via phonecalls, emails and in person. Thank you for keeping up the positivity!

Kind regards,

Sophie Gosden
Headteacher