

John Perry Primary School
Charles Road
Dagenham
Essex
RM10 8UR
Tel: 020 8270 4622
Email: office@johnperry.bardaglea.org.uk
Head Teacher: Mr W Pedro



31 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you were able to have a very good Festive break with your families and loved ones given the circumstances.

It is with regret that I write to you following yesterday's announcement by both the Secretary of State, Gavin Williamson and the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson.

The information provided in the announcement by Mr Johnson was received by Head Teachers and school leaders at the same time as you. It is unfortunate timing, on the eve of New Year, that I am writing this letter to share with you the key messages and plans we have just put together following the government's announcement.

Within this guidance there are listed local authorities that the government identifies as being situated in the highest infection areas. Unfortunately, Barking and Dagenham is one of those areas and so it is with regret that our school will remain closed until Monday 18th January. Our school will reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021 only for those vulnerable children and those children of critical key workers where no child care is available. Arrangements made by schools will be different depending on individual circumstances and will of course be subject to change as the current situation develops.

Towards the end of the two weeks, Mr Williamson stated in Parliament that there will be a review on the next phase which will be guided by Public Health.

As stated above, **primary schools should only allow children of critical workers and those defined as vulnerable to attend.** The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

The Government's classification of Critical Key workers includes:

- Health and social care
- Education staff and childcare workers
- Key public services – essential to justice system, funeral directors
- Local and national government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities and financial services

If as a parent/carer your job falls within the critical categories above, you should confirm with your employer that, based on their business continuity arrangements, your specific role is necessary for the continuation of this essential public service.

Please remember we are trying to limit the spread of this disease which affects us all and with less children in school, this reduces the risk of spreading. We urge you to carefully consider the need to use the school and ask for those wanting to use the provision to **email our school office** (office@johnperry.bardaglea.org.uk) **by no later than Monday 4th January 11:30 am.**

Please provide us with the following information:



- Your child's name
- Your child's class or class teacher
- Days needed: please specify exactly which days of the week you will need to send your child into school

Please email the school office with the subject field: *On-site provision at John Perry w/b 5th January 2021.*

Please understand that you will need to attach proof of your status as key critical worker in order for us to admit your child into school.

Our office team will be in contact with notified families from Midday on Monday 4th January 2021 confirming attendance. In addition to this, a letter will be sent to these families on Monday 4th January with further details regarding on-site provision from Tuesday 5th January.

Learning for Critical key workers and Home learning:

We will continue to provide remote learning to those children learning from home on our established learning platform, Google classroom. For children attending our on-site provision, they will receive the same experience of learning as those at home.

If your child has no access to an online device, please contact the school office on the email address shown above so that we can provide your child with a printed learning pack.

As part of our remote learning plan, families will already have at home an exercise book. Learning will be led by staff we have available to us, depending on them being well themselves. More details will be sent to parents/carers on Monday 4th January 2021.

Meal options Schools

Schools should provide meal options for all pupils who are in school and meals should be available free of charge to all infant pupils and pupils who meet the free school meals eligibility criteria.

Schools should also continue to provide free school meals or vouchers for eligible pupils who are not attending school where they:

- are self-isolating
- have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- are not attending as a result of implementation of local restrictions advised by government

We will continue to work with Barking and Dagenham Catering Services in order to prepare meals or vouchers. As soon as we have communication from them, we will share this with you.

If, during this pandemic, your personal circumstances have changed, please visit our school's website where you will find information on how to apply for Free School Meals (<https://johnperryprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/PPG-letter-to-parents.pdf>).

This could be of great benefit to you and your child during these unprecedented times.

Safeguarding

Whilst schools remain closed safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility. At John Perry, our Safeguarding Team will be available for any questions or queries you may have. Our Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Rose. If you need to discuss something with the Safeguarding Team (Mrs Rose, Mrs Cross, Miss Rajan-Weare or Mrs Langridge), please email the school office and ask for a return call which they will be happy to do.



Contact

We will continue to contact you via Weduc with updates as appropriate. This continues to be a very difficult time for everyone and we certainly appreciate that you are worried about the impact this might have on our community.

Finally

If you need to contact your child's teacher, you can do so by using the Year Group's email address, for instance: Year1@johnperry.bardaglea.org.uk

On behalf of our staff, we sincerely thank you for your continued support at this unprecedented time.

Yours sincerely,

Mr W Pedro
Head Teacher

