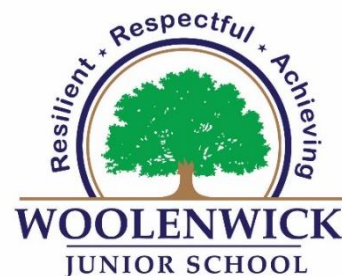


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Acting Headteacher: Ms T.Koser, BA (Hons) QTS PGCE



Monday 4th January 2021

RETURNING TO SCHOOL JANUARY 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

After a huge amount of deliberation and a full re-evaluation of risks relating to COVID-19 and the safety at school, I am writing to inform you that I have made the decision **to move over to remote learning for all children for the first week of this spring term. As a school, we will review this decision on a weekly basis from then onwards** and will let you know, with sufficient notice, of any changes. This decision has been made in the light of:

- our commitment to keeping Woolenwick Junior children, families and staff safe
- the current case rates in our local area
- the potential increased risk of transmission of the new variant of the coronavirus amongst children
- the impact of the advice issued by teaching unions

This means that **ALL children, except those of critical workers (keyworkers) and some vulnerable children, will need to stay home from Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January and fully engage in remote learning activities** which will be provided by teaching staff this week.

The definition of 'critical workers' and 'vulnerable children' 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>

If you are a critical worker (keyworker) or are eligible for on-site provision from Tuesday 5th January, you will receive an email in the next 20 minutes with more information. We will require a response from critical workers if their child/ren does not need a place from tomorrow.

It has not been easy to make this decision, but I believe it is important to give children, parents and carers clarity about my position so that you can all make preparations for the week ahead.

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, I have seen how we pull together at Woolenwick to face even the hardest challenges and I am sure this team effort will continue into the new year. I thank you in advance for your ongoing support over the next few weeks. If you have any concerns or worries, please do email admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk and put in the subject line 'for the attention of the head' and I will do my best to help you.

Please keep a close eye on your email and the school website for more information to follow.

Kind regards

Ms T Koser
Acting Headteacher

And Board of Governors

