



Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers in Emerald and Diamond classes,

We really do appreciate the challenges that this National Lockdown has placed on communities and we thank parents/carers for their ongoing support of the school in these times.

We are needing to make you aware that the numbers of vulnerable and critical worker children that we are experiencing in Emerald class and Diamond class is close to 50%. In reviewing our risk assessment we must rebalance the number of pupils, staff and our accommodation to reduce social contacts and keep the virus transmission low. You will already be aware that we have had some positive cases at the school in January and want to ensure that we follow sensible risk management.

As a school, we continue to offer attendance for those vulnerable children and children of critical workers who need to be in school. The national aggregate attendance in school is 20% in primary schools at present, which supports the desired reduction in social contacts. Unfortunately our numbers are more than double this in both Emerald and Diamond classes at present and we cannot continue to operate at this level and support the drive to reduce social contacts. A number of other classes' numbers on site are rising too. We need to reduce social contacts to the minimum, and reduce stress and anxiety in our staff (some of whom are leaving their own young children at home).

With this in mind, we strongly urge that if you can keep your child at home, then you do so. Our remote learning offer has received excellent feedback from parents, including via the Parent Council and this package is equally on offer to children learning at home and on site.

To reduce social contacts, we will therefore be closing our current registers for Emerald and Diamond classes from Friday 29th January and would urge all critical workers in these classes to make alternative arrangements where possible for the following weeks. If there is an adult at home, the child should remain at home.

Offers of places from 1st February will be on the basis set out below.

SEN and Vulnerable Children

- Continue to offer approximately 2 days provision to SEN support children, who would benefit from places (teacher's discretion).
- Continue to offer 3-5 days a week to EHCP children (in consultation with parents and SENCO).
- Continue to offer 5 days provision to children with social workers.
- Offer some provision to other vulnerable children (invited by teacher, 1-5 days dependent on need). This will be reviewed regularly and adjusted.

Critical Workers

Critical Workers should **only** contact the office to request a place (by Weds 27th), if:

- All parents in the household are critical workers.
- All parents in the household need to go away from home for their work (eg Police, NHS, social worker or school staff).
- If our numbers do not fall sufficiently, we may need to ask for a letter from your employer to clearly state that you need to work away from home and which days you would be required to do this.

If there is an adult in the household (eg on maternity leave or furloughed), or an adult (critical worker or not) who is working at home, you should not request a place at this time.

We will continue to review numbers in the other classes and where numbers exceed 33%, we will close the registers for these classes and follow the above procedure too. To prevent this from happening to further classes, please cancel your places if you are a critical worker and working from home; on furlough; on maternity leave, or where there is an adult in the house who is not a critical worker. We know that home schooling can be difficult at times, but this is not a reason to send a child to school if they can be looked after at home. Attendance for critical workers in school should only be requested on the days that the critical worker parent(s) are working.

Every individual person has an individual circumstance, so if you need to have a discussion with us about this matter, please email AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk

To request consideration for a place, please complete and return the form below and return to AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk by Weds 27th January 12pm

Best regards,

Mrs Deb Williams

Attendance Request Form for Vulnerable and Critical Worker children – Round 2 - Jan 2021

Please complete and return this form to AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk by Weds 27th January 12pm. FAO Mrs Deb Williams.

Name of child: _____ Class: Emerald/ Diamond

Request for Vulnerable Child place

Does your child have an EHCP? Yes/No

Does your child have Special Educational Needs? Yes/No

Does your child have a social worker? Yes/No

Is there another way would you consider your child to be vulnerable? (eg previously had a social worker; previously homeless or at risk of homelessness; adult mental health; police involvement with family member; domestic abuse etc). Yes/No (if yes, please state briefly below)

Request for a Critical Worker child place

Parent 1

Parent 1 job role:

Employer:

Is this a critical worker role? Yes/No

Which days are required to work away from home? M T W Th F

Are you furloughed or on maternity or other absence from work? Yes/No

Parent 2

Parent 2 job role:

Employer:

Is this a critical worker role? Yes/No

Which days are required to work away from home? M T W Th F

Are you furloughed or on maternity or other absence from work? Yes/No

Any other information you wish to provide in relation to this application (please provide shift pattern from your employer with this application, if applicable)

Office use only: Place agreed on Mon Tues Weds Thurs Fri or linked to shift pattern (eg police)

Confirmed with parent on:

Signed: