

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and have managed to keep safe and healthy.

We are sure you are aware that there is currently a national debate between education unions and their members about the safety of a full reopening of primary schools in Tier 4. The government believe that it is safe to do so but some teaching unions disagree due to the increase in transmission and infection rates currently recorded across the country. Due to concerns raised by staff with regards to the full reopening of school I am not in a position to be able to open school to all pupils. This has been a very difficult decision to make but the safety of school staff and the pupils within our care remains our number one priority.

After very careful consideration and consultation with school staff, we have to inform you that from tomorrow, **Tuesday 5th January 2021**, the school will only open for children of **key workers and vulnerable children**. Children of key workers should only be sent to school if **BOTH PARENTS** are key workers and not working from home. You may be asked to provide proof of this. If you have planned to return to work and need a school place then please contact the school office on: **0161 789 4400** or email: lewisstreet.primaryschool@salford.gov.uk. This provision will be available from 8am to 3pm everyday. If your child falls into this category then please bring them into school using the entrance and exit gate that was used in the autumn term. There will be no after school clubs until further notice. If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and you feel the objectives of their plan can not be met safely and throughly at home please contact charlene.skeels@salford.gov.uk.

These arrangements will be reviewed regularly and will be subject to any change in government guidance.

We are extremely sorry for the very short notice and appreciate how difficult this will be for some families. At this time of high rates of infection across the country, can we please remind you of the safety measures we have in place to keep our school community safe - wearing face masks and socially distancing and adhering to the tier 4 restrictions when outside school.

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we will continue to help your child to learn. Please refer to the school website and SeeSaw/Tapestry for online activities. Links to live lessons for years 2 to 6 will be sent out via text. Paper-based home learning packs will also be made available.

We will provide further information about provision for children on Free School Meals as and when this becomes available.



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This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Thank you once again.

With kind regards

Wendy McCormack
Executive Head teacher

D. Jolley

CLr David Jolley
Chair of Governors



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