



Brunswick Park Primary School

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Learning for living through respect, support and challenge

TO ALL PARENTS AND CARERS

31 December 2020

SCHOOL CLOSURE 5-18 JANUARY 2021: ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION DURING THIS TIME

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing in response to the Government's last-minute decision yesterday afternoon to close primary schools in Southwark from 5-18 January in an attempt to limit the spread of COVID-19. This letter is necessarily long and detailed, and I need you to read it through to the end so everyone has a shared understanding of the actions we are taking at Brunswick Park.

School will be closed to children from 5-18 January initially, unless one or both parents/carers are Critical Workers or a place for your child at school has been offered to you directly.

You are a Critical Worker if your work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response in these key sectors:

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting



Local and national government

This only includes:

- those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- or delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

If your work is in any of these key sectors, your child/ren can come to school as normal. Safety measures remain robust. The school's Risk Assessment has been updated in line with Tier 4 restrictions and guidance, and all the school's hygiene, cleaning and distancing measures remain in place. Children will continue to be taught in their bubbles and consistent groups and adults will continue to maintain social distance from them where possible and appropriate.

ACTION: If you are a critical worker, please email the school on office@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk as soon as possible and by Monday 4 January at 12 Noon with this information:

- **Your child's name**
- **Your child's class**
- **Your critical worker role**
- **My child will/will not come to school from 5 January**

If your child is adopted or looked-after, has an EHCP or would benefit from being in school, we will contact you directly to work with you to make sure your child's education continues uninterrupted.

THE NURSERY WILL REMAIN OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN FROM 5 JANUARY 2021. Please email the school on office@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk to let Anna know if your child will be attending.

The Government has stated that all other children should remain at home until it reviews school opening on 18 January 2021. **During this time, starting on 5 January, it expects these children to learn at home.** When schools closed in March 2020, formal education was suspended and schools were directed to offer childcare and activities to do at home until July. In October 2020 the Government passed a law to ensure children's education would not be disrupted in this way again: learning at home must reflect learning at school so children at home do not fall behind. If your child remains at home from 5 January, s/he will be taught and set work on Google Classroom. Please make sure you and your child are able to access this. If you have forgotten your login details for Google Classroom please email the School Office on office@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk and they will be sent to you again.

IN SUMMARY:

- 1. If you are a critical worker, tell us and tell us if your child will be attending school**
- 2. We will contact you if your child would benefit from being in school for other reasons**
- 3. The Nursery is staying open for all its children: tell us if your child will be attending**
- 4. Make sure you can access Google Classroom and tell us straight away if you can't**
- 5. Remote learning via Google Classroom for children not in school starts on Tuesday 5 January**

If you have any questions, please email the school on the office@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk address. I am sorry that the Government's announcement has come so late with so little opportunity to plan for it. I assure you we will do our best to make sure your children's education continues uninterrupted, whether they are learning at home or at school, and I look forward to seeing at least some of you and the children again on 5 January. In the meantime, I hope you have been able to enjoy the break, and Christmas if you celebrated it, and I wish you and your families the happiest of New Years and a safe, peaceful, hopeful and healthy 2021.

Yours sincerely



Susannah Bellingham
Head Teacher