



Herne Bay Infant School and Seashells Nursery

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4th January 2021

Dear Families,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

I trust my e-mail finds you safe and well.

Following the Government's announcement tonight regarding a National lockdown coming into force, I can confirm that **Herne Bay Infant School and Seashells Nursery will close to all pupils from tomorrow morning, Tuesday 5th January until further notice.**

The school will continue to be open to any pupil whose parent/guardian is identified as a critical worker and for children with an EHCP or under the support of social care. I attach the Government list of critical workers at the end of this letter.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from tomorrow onwards.

Drop-off and Collection

Please follow your normal drop-off and collection routine until further notice.

Home Learning

Your child's learning is of course important to us, so we shall continue to help your child to learn. To support this, home learning activities are on our school website as shared in the e-mail sent from Joanna Heath earlier today. These provide activities to complete with your child as well as a number of websites offering age expected learning.

Free School Meals

If your child is registered for free school meals, (not universal infant meals) you will receive support during the period of closure. We shall be in contact with you imminently regarding this.

We shall be in contact later in the week with further information but in the meantime we would like to thank you for your continued support.

Please take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Chilton Saint
Executive Headteacher

The list of critical workers can be seen below:

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

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 arm's 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*
- *waste disposal sectors*