



South Haringay School
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Thursday, 7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you, and your families are safe and well. Although another lockdown is disappointing news for all of us, as a community we have shown we can support each other, and most importantly our children, during these challenging conditions. We now know the lockdown will last until the February half term holiday, and perhaps longer, depending on Government reviews and announcements.

In my letters to you, I am going to reinstate the Frequently Asked Questions format over the initial period of this new lockdown. Feel free to email in any questions (admin@shsharingey.co.uk), or concerns you may have, and I will do my best to answer common questions and resolve issues.

Can the learning experiences on Google Classroom be improved further?

Yes – since last April, we have continued to develop the format of the learning available, and the types of activities provided on Google Classroom. We have grabbed the opportunity of a new lockdown to extend our offer on video lessons, as well as trialing some live experiences. Our teaching staff will work together to review the effectiveness of the changes and look for further innovations in the coming weeks. We welcome feedback, both positive and negative. However, we cannot adapt the learning to suit all proposals and preferences.

Does their really need to be two critical worker parents/carers in a family to access the on-site learning?

According to government guidance you can request access to our on-site provision if only one parent meets the published criteria for [critical workers](#). However, we respectfully ask that you avoid requesting a place for your child, if there is any way they can be supported to learn at home.

We completely empathise with the challenges for parents who are trying to work from home – many of our staff are also parents. However, we have limited capacity for children in the school. We are following our risk assessment, to ensure the safety of children and staff. This only allows for a certain number of children in each bubble. In addition, we have sick staff members (some with Covid 19) and staff members who are self-isolating.

Within our bubbles, we also need to ensure we have provided places for children who fall under the [vulnerable category](#).

So, if you are able to avoid using a place at school, or limiting the days you use a space, we truly appreciate this.

Once our bubbles have reached capacity, we will place any valid requests on a waiting list.

Shouldn't the nursery be open to all children?

The government is currently suggesting that nurseries should remain open. However, nurseries attached to primary schools can be closed during this lockdown. Using our risk assessment, we decided to take a consistent approach school-wide and only open our nursery to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children.

Haringey headteachers have discussed this issue recently and we all agreed to take the same approach. We will keep this issue under review.

As I mentioned earlier last year, I loathe the process of restricting children's access to our school. It goes against all of our principles of inclusion. Rest assured, we will open our school to more children, if not all children, as soon as we possibly can.

Yours Sincerely,



Ian Scotchbrook
Headteacher

