



Ref: NatLockdownSchoolClose/CTY/wlr

5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

National Lockdown and Closure of Schools

Following the Prime Minister's announcement at 8pm on Monday 4th January, we are in the unfortunate position that schools will **ONLY** open for Key Worker and Vulnerable students.

As we are now in a full national lockdown, it is important that we follow the guidance. This will ensure we can limit the spread of the virus and limit the amount of time schools are closed for the majority of students. The initial indications are that schools will be closed until February half term, at the earliest.

I have copied the link that will take you to the guidance for the national lockdown.
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Vulnerable children and children of critical workers who can attend school

During the period of national lockdown, we can only allow vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to attend. Children with at least one parent or carer who is listed as a critical worker are eligible for a school place. It is not necessary for both parents to be critical workers. The critical worker list has been updated to include new workforces whose work is critical following the end of the EU transition period. We will contact all families of students who we know to be classed as vulnerable.

The link below can be used to establish if your child is classed as vulnerable or you are a critical worker.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision?utm_source=4%20January%202021

Please can we ask for simple evidence that you are a critical worker; this could be a work ID badge or pay slip. This can be shown at reception or a photocopy sent in with your child(ren).

Requesting a Place for Critical Workers

The links below should be used to identify if your child(ren) needs a place. Please note that we are not providing childcare and that students that attend school will have access to the education we are providing for all other students. Unlike the first lockdown, we would strongly urge you, if you want a school place, to ensure your child attends Monday to Friday for continuity and to ensure we are not mixing classes – this will protect staff and your child.

Please note that places will be limited to ensure the safety of staff and students.

Primary Phase Form for Critical Workers

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kGSC6rbgAk2BMLvfMAKGDMz3-7Bn9HtDngubkINNkKpUQzRLSFpZRTZCVjNNQIVKM0U3T0RBNDhSNS4u>

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Secondary Phase Form for Critical Workers

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kGSC6rbgAk2BMLvfMAKGDHqviS-HszpDjiWdRMYvHtVUOUIBUIZTUlpSV1NVUkdDRkU5OTJUOFdXQS4u>

If you do request a place, you must inform us through the usual way, if your child cannot attend for whatever reason. The school day will be a full day and students should enter through main reception and be in full school uniform. The school day for both phases is outlined below. It is important to arrive at your allotted times to ensure phases are not mixing.

Primary students should arrive at **8.40am** and depart at **2.45pm**

Secondary students should arrive at **8.30am** and depart at **2.35pm**

Remote Learning for all students

Remote Learning will be provided for all students that are not in school. The plans for Primary home learning are available on the school website; Tapestry and SeeSaw will be used to ensure high quality education is provided.

Secondary students should continue to follow their normal timetable and all lessons and resources are available through Microsoft Teams. Further details of the secondary timetable and plans for each subject will be shared later in the week.

It is imperative and expected that students in both phases complete the work set to the best of their ability. School staff will closely monitor engagement and address any concerns with yourselves. If you have any issues with ICT or devices at home please can you contact info@thegrangeacademy.co.uk.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing in school

The coronavirus (COVID-19) testing programme will continue in school and therefore it is important that **all secondary parents complete the consent** that has been sent earlier today. The testing will be carried out on vulnerable and key worker students once we are in a position to administer the tests; providing we have consent.

Meal provision

We will continue to provide meal for all pupils who are in school. Those students in receipt of free school meals and in the infant phase will receive this free of charge. For students in receipt of free school meals that are not in school, a voucher will be provided. If your child is in school and receives their free school meal, you will not receive a voucher.

Exams and SATs

For current Year 10 and 11 students that have exams this week and next, these are still going ahead as planned. This may be subject to change and we will let you know as soon as possible if this is the case.

For exams and SATs in the summer term, please be patient as we are still awaiting further information. It is critical that all students engage in their learning both in school and at home; particularly Year 6 and Year 11.

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THE GRANGE ACADEMY

As always, thank you for your patience in these challenging circumstances. Please ensure you and your families follow the guidance; Stay Home, Protect the NHS and Save Lives.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Critchley
Principal

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