



ELTHAM
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SINCE 1814

Roper Street
Eltham
London SE9 1TR

T 020 8850 1528
E sao1@elthamce.greenwich.sch.uk
www.elthamcoeschool.co.uk

15 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Secretary of State Directive to Schools in Greenwich

What a long 48 hours!

As anticipated the Secretary of State has issued a directive for schools in Greenwich to remain fully open to all children until the end of term, and to take reasonable steps to stay open or allow pupils to attend to receive education.

As I wrote last night, we were fully prepared to follow the Secretary of State's decision. I am mindful, however, of the impact on families and children of the past 48 hours, as well as the information coming from the Government last night concerning coronavirus in London and the South East, including the advice for families who are preparing to see family over Christmas.

Therefore, I am outlining below how we at Eltham Church of England Primary School will provide education for all children on 16 & 17 December, whilst acknowledging the disruption and changes in arrangements that families have made.

School is open to all pupils

School will be open to all pupils to be taught in class. School will start and finish at the 'normal' times for each year group.

It is important that we know the number of children who will be present tomorrow, by 3pm today so that lunches and school work can be organised.

Learning will also continue online

Should parents have already made alternative arrangements for the next two days, or are unable to send children back to school because they are self-isolating (including in preparation for seeing elderly relatives at Christmas). We have arranged for class teachers to be available for fixed periods throughout the day via Google Meets in Key Stage 2 for the children and teacher to 'check in' and receive feedback on their work.

Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 will have contact with their teacher via the Google Drive and Tapestry.

Please note that no child will be recorded as unauthorised. We must however have had contact from families indicating their intentions.

What does the school need?

So that I can prepare the staffing and their ensure responsibilities are clear for the next two days, **it is important that parents email the class teacher via the class email address** to inform the school of your intentions. That way we can be clear on the number of children to expect tomorrow and the number who will be online.

Therefore all families **must** inform the teacher by 3pm today their plans for their children over the next two days.

Conclusion

This has been a difficult and disruptive end to the term. However, we are still in control and as such I have confidence that **all children** will continue to receive an excellent education – right up to the end of term, both face-to-face and online.

Please contact your class teacher by 3pm today to inform them of your intentions.

Hot lunch will be prepared for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – But it will not be a Christmas Dinner. We are talking to GS Plus to have a special dinner in the New Year to make up for missing Christmas Dinner this year.

Term will still end at the end of the school day on Thursday 17 December.

Thank you for the incredible amount of support and kind words that I received over the last 48 hours. It is your resilience and commitment to the partnership between school and home in making sure that our children receive a first rate education at Eltham Church of England Primary School that makes our school so special.

With best wishes,
Yours faithfully



Matthew Bulpitt
Headteacher

