

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We were all anticipating an exciting new start to Term 3 and I was especially looking forward to meeting everyone in my first week at Hunton. It goes almost without saying that this was not the start I envisaged at all. My main aim was to know every child's name in the first week, to meet and greet you and the children on arrival. Hunton is a very unique school and I feel quite privileged to have the opportunity to become an integral part of the its community. This period of lockdown must be seen as a time to keep safe and well and it will not stop my intentions and vision which I am sharing with staff via Zoom on Monday. I still am very excited to meet all the children and yourselves whenever that safe time comes.

Following yesterday's government announcement that schools in our area will be closed for all pupils except those of critical workers and / or with specific needs or vulnerabilities we are sending this letter with questions to gauge numbers for the first 2 weeks of term. Please only send your child in if it is absolutely necessary.

We are intending that children in school will be in two classes with school staff leading learning that may be delivered remotely by teachers. Our intention is to form 2 small classes; YR,1&2 in one bubble and Y3-6 in a second bubble. This is to be confirmed once we have the results from the questions we are asking you to complete.

We have received the list from the government of critical workers which can be found here. The government guidelines confirm which occupations are classed as critical and which children are classed as vulnerable.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If **one** parent or carer falls into these categories and your child needs to attend school please email [office@hunton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@hunton.kent.sch.uk) to confirm your child will attend from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January onwards. Schooling is also available and recommended for all pupils in this group - *If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*

**Please email answers to the following no later than midday tomorrow to give us an idea of pupil numbers for staffing and whether lunches are required.**

**Child's name/class**

**Your profession or child's vulnerability**

**Lunch is required   a) I will pay for this   b) I am eligible for free school meals.**

The school day intends to run with the timings for each class / year group as last term. Unfortunately, though, we presently cannot offer Breakfast Club. We will of course, in time, review this along with everything else.

We are hoping that Contract Dining can provide packed lunches if your child requires one and is in school. We will be in contact with all parents in receipt of FSM early next week to make arrangements with you if you require support at home and your child is not in school to have their meal.

For pupils who will remain at home, there will be remote learning provided by their teachers. Your child's log-in will be sent to you on Monday. Feedback from pupils and parents who have experienced this previously at other schools has been very positive and this will definitely be a chance for more children to experience online learning.

Once we have an idea of pupil numbers we will send a further email with more detailed information but in the meantime, thank you for being so understanding and supportive.

I do apologise for a letter, which because of the nature of the times, has to be organisational. I look forward to writing a more personal message to you next week.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year and do keep safe,

Anita Makey

Headteacher