

13th January 2021

### School Closure Provision

Sadly, I can confirm that the number of Coronavirus cases in all areas of Wolverhampton has significantly increased within the last week alone. The new variant of the virus is also reported as affecting people of all ages, including young people. Below is a table highlighting the most recent information from the NHS on the number of cases per 100,000 people in our local community.

Area	Number of cases per 100,000 people
England	629.9
Wolverhampton	1018.0
Bushbury Hill (School postcode area)	1029.9

The Prime Minister announced last week that ‘Schools act as vectors for transmission, causing the virus to spread between households’. With this in mind, and in light of these latest developments, I would like to kindly request that you are only using the critical worker childcare provision, including the Friday afternoon crèche, where absolutely necessary and only for the days required.

In addition to this, I would like to remind those using school provision currently to always adhere to the one way system and use of masks onsite.

Although we are doing everything we can to ensure our school environment is as safe as possible, cases are still being confirmed within schools across Wolverhampton, resulting in bubble closures, and it is evident that the number of cases are rapidly rising within our community. While we remain in National lockdown, it is clear that home is the safest place for your child to be and onsite school provision should only be utilised where keeping your child at home is not an option. Of course, if you have no alternative and require onsite childcare provision, we are happy to welcome your child into school as and when childcare is needed. As stated above, we have worked hard to ensure all of the relevant procedures are in place to ensure our school site is as safe as possible.

Government are currently encouraging schools to fully open their Nursery provision during this time of full school closure. We are currently looking into the safest way to facilitate this considering the significant high rates of cases within our area. A survey will be sent to relevant parents later today to establish whether you would be interested in your child(ren) attending.

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As parents and carers, we fully appreciate that you are also having to respond to last minute changes and arrangements. We understand the worry and stress this causes, along with the enormous challenges you are presented with as you juggle work commitments, childcare and wider family anxieties. It is vital that we all play our part to ensure that we are doing everything we can to keep our families, friends, colleagues and local community safe.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support in playing your part to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Kind regards,

Miss Pritchett  
Head of School