

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY



January 3rd, 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all managed to have a lovely Christmas during these challenging times and I wish all members of our school community a very happy and healthy new year.

As you have no doubt been following in the news, Uttlesford remains one of the few areas in Essex to keep open primary schools at this time. The current situation is that our school will open again to all pupils on Wednesday 6th January as originally planned. However, you will have seen in the press that there are calls for all primary schools in Tier 4 areas in Essex to switch to remote learning for a short period and so we are closely monitoring all government guidance at this time. All primary schools in Uttlesford, whose return dates were the 4th or 5th January, have today been asked to provide remote learning only on Monday and Tuesday whilst discussions with the Department for Education are taking place. This does not apply to us as our term starts on Wednesday 6th January. We will continue to keep you updated.

If our school was required to move to remote learning, we would still provide places in school for children of critical workers and any children deemed vulnerable. Our provision for remote learning and/or critical worker places would commence in line with our published term dates – **Wednesday 6th January**.

So that we can forward plan for any required critical worker in-school provision accurately, please can you check the critical worker list attached to see if your employment falls into this. If, in the event of a switch to remote learning, your child would need and qualify for a school place in the critical worker provision, please complete the survey following the link below.

Please note, priority would be given to children where both parents/carers are deemed critical workers. School will contact parents directly if their child falls within any vulnerable group category. The survey will close on Tuesday 5th January at 12pm and can be accessed via this link:
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=b-uYvj0ekk6Lr2jVurP8ehdBIL1p-XJJr6lj2CwUgMJUMUxBNjJIMVFLWIFBREhGVEJLRU8xU0cyNy4u>.

Thank you for your continued support,
Best wishes,

Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections:

Critical Worker List
Health and social care
Doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers
the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector
those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment
Education and childcare
registered childcare
support and teaching staff
social workers
specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach
Key public services
those essential to the running of the justice system
religious staff
charities and workers delivering key frontline services
those responsible for the management of the deceased
journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting
Local and national government- This only includes a) or b)
a) those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
b) delivering essential public services, such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms length bodies
Food and other necessary goods
food production
food processing
food distribution
food sale and delivery
those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)
Public safety and national security
police and support staff

Ministry of Defence civilians
contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak)
fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
National Crime Agency staff
those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas
Transport
those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass
Utilities, communication and financial services
staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
postal services and delivery
payments providers
waste disposal sectors

If you need to request a critical worker place for your child in the event of a switch to remote learning, please follow the survey link by Tuesday 5th January at 12pm

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=b-uYvj0ekk6Lr2jVurP8ehdBIL1p-XJJr6lj2CwUgMJUMUxBNjJIMVFLWIFBREhGVEJLRU8xU0cyNy4u>