

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all a happy new year to everyone. It has definitely been a strange beginning to term. Below you will find further information regarding the partial closure of schools during the lockdown and information about home learning.

Home Learning

For those pupils who are not in school work will be available on the website. This can be found by clicking the learning tab and then home learning tab on the first page or by clicking this link <https://greateathacademy.attrust.org.uk/learning/home-learning/>

There are a few changes to the last time.

- We will upload a week's worth of work at a time.
- Each day there will be a maths lesson, a literacy lesson and a topic lesson (plus phonics for Year R and Year 1)
- We are using Sway to present our work. We have trialled this in school and it seems to be a good way to present the work. The good news is you can view it easily on phones, tablets and computers and we can incorporate recordings and videos of teachers. We look forward to your feedback.
- We do require work to be submitted each week. We will let you know which piece of work we require and how we want it sent back
- We are required to call any parents who we have not heard from each week – this is part of our requirement in ensuring that all pupils are safe. **Please can we therefore ask you maintain communication during this period of lockdown**
- Please don't forget to make use of our online learning opportunities and if you need password reminders then please email the year group email.

Critical worker and vulnerable children places

Thank you to everybody who replied so swiftly using the email and phone to book their critical worker place. As critical workers ourselves we understand how stressful it was to be told last night at 8pm that schools are closing. If you believe you are a critical worker and require a place for your child please read the following

- First of all check the list of critical workers to ensure your role falls into one of the categories. You can use the link here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>
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- Please note that critical worker places should be for children where there is no one else available at home to look after them. We understand that many of you work shifts and only require school places on those days – please let us know the week before which days you need so we can ensure we are adequately staffed
- If you feel your child requires a place under the vulnerable category please call the office to discuss

The arrangements for children coming into school are as follows

- School will operate from 8.55am until 3.15pm
- All children will enter via the double gates we have been using from the car park, near the fence
- Children will be met by an adult from their bubble and walked to their classroom and parents can exit the site via the gate opposite the office. This reduces the number of children going through school
- Morning club is in operation **for those who have booked for this term** – we will contact you regarding fee refunds. Please bring children to the front office.
- Children are to be collected from the same gate at 3.15pm. If you need to collect your child earlier please let us know in the morning and collect from the office.
- Children may wear their own clothes during the partial closure. Currently the kitchen is open for school dinners, please ensure these are paid for on SchoolMoney. Apart from a water bottle children do not need to bring anything in.

I appreciate your ongoing support during this difficult time

Mrs Brown

Principal