Whitefield Primary School

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Hub provision for children of critical workers (previously 'key workers')

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your patience in what has been a challenging 48 hours. The plans we put in place yesterday following the education union advice have now been disregarded following the announcement of a full lockdown by the prime minister last night.

School is now closed to all children apart from those who have parents who are critical workers and those deemed to be vulnerable.

As such, we will be providing 'hub provision' for these groups of children in a similar way to the provision we had during the summer of 2020. Thank you for your application – we are pleased to confirm we can offer your child/ren a place at our hub.

The aim of this lockdown is to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, particularly the new strain which is reported to be more contagious than the previous strain. Because of this we must limit the number of children and staff we have in the school building. If you do not need this provision, please do not use it.

Some things that you need to note:

- The children will be in year group hubs (bubbles). This is different to the arrangements we had in the summer term.
 - They will be supervised by one of the teachers from that year group and supported by the year group teaching assistants.
 - The teachers will also be providing remote learning and having contact with the children in their classes who are not in the hub.
 - They will be in the same classrooms every day it will be one of their year group classrooms.

- As we did before the Christmas holidays, you will drop your child off at the external door of their year group classroom and pick up from there too. The only exception to this is Year 3 who need to be dropped off and collected from the hall external door ie Bola door.
- If you are a critical worker yet you can provide for your child at home due to your personal circumstances, please do so.
- If you are a critical worker and your partner is not, we would expect you to make provision for your child so they do not need to be in school.
- If you only need certain days, please ensure you indicate this on the application / hub booking form (see information below).
- We are unable to provide BOLA (breakfast club and after school club) provision.
- The hub sessions will be between from 9am until 3.30am. If you only need certain times of the day, ie you start work at lunchtime or you finish early, please only bring your child in to school for those times.
- School will provide a lunch for all children in R, Y1 and Y2 for free as normal however you may bring in a packed lunch if you wish. If your child is in Years 3-6, you can order a school lunch on the day (from the current menu) or bring in a packed lunch.
- Children who access free school meals will continue to receive a meal from school when they are in the hub. Alternatively you can send in a packed lunch from home.
- The children will not need any other resources everything will be provided by school so they do not need to bring a bag. Just a coat, a packed lunch and a water bottle.
- Uniform is optional however the children must be in clean clothes every day to reduce any possible transmission from home to school. They must have a warm coat and comfortable shoes.
- You will need to complete the hub booking form available via the parentsapp on a weekly basis for all hub bookings. By the end of each week (Friday 12 noon) we must have your requirements for the following week. This needs to be completed for all the children in your family. You have already completed the initial questionnaire for w/b 11th January, however we need you to re-enter this information on the new hub booking form which will be sent to you shortly, as we know some of your circumstances have changed due to the prime minister's announcement. If you haven't been given a hub place you will not have access to this booking form.

On your child's first day in their hub, please provide evidence of your critical worker job. This may be an ID badge or a recent pay slip showing your name and place of work. Please do not be offended by this request – school know the job that many of you do, but we do not know everyone. We must ensure that hub places are only given to those children who have parents working in the roles identified by the government as critical workers and who do not have access to any other childcare arrangements.

If there is anything we have missed and/or you have any questions, please email school on <u>hubbooking@whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk</u> and we will get back to you.

Thank you for your on-going support – if you are struggling in any way, please get in touch and we will do what we can to help you.

Kind regards

Sarah Foster Headteacher