

Newton Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Linda Kane



Dear Parents and Families

Arrangements for January 2021

As you may already be aware, the First Minister announced on Saturday, 19 December, that there will be changes to how learning is delivered in January 2021.

Schools will be open on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 January for the provision of **childcare for children of key workers and identified vulnerable learners only**.

Learning provision will resume for all pupils from Monday, 11 January, delivered remotely for **all pupils** other than the children of key workers and vulnerable children.

In line with our school contingency plans, remote learning will be provided via Google Classroom. We will be in contact with further details when we return next term and before Monday, 11 January. Please do not contact the school with further questions at this time as all information will be shared with families at the same time prior to the remote learning starting.

It is important that we prioritise **those most in need of in-school provision**. Please note that in level 4 of the Scottish Government's COVID-19 protection levels, people are asked to work from home wherever practicable.

In-school provision is available to families whose parents/carers meet the following criteria as **key workers**:

- **Category 1** – Health and care workers directly supporting COVID response, and associated staff; health and care workers supporting life threatening emergency work, as well as critical primary and community care provision; energy suppliers (small numbers identified as top priority already); staff providing childcare/learning for other category 1 staff.
- **Category 2** – All other health and care workers, and wider public sector workers providing emergency/critical welfare services (for example: fire, police, prisons, social workers), as well as those supporting critical national infrastructure, without whom serious damage to the welfare of the people of Scotland could be caused.
- **Category 3** – All workers (private, public or third sector) without whom there could be a significant impact on Scotland (but where the response to COVID-19, or the ability to perform essential tasks to keep the country running, would not be severely compromised).

If you meet the above criteria and, as a result, need your child to be in school from 7 January (for childcare) or 11th January (in school learning provision), please contact us to let us know by returning your details via the google link form at the end of this letter.

We will ask you to confirm:

- Your job and employer.
- Which days you require your child to be in school.

Where a child requires support from more than one agency (NHS, social work, educational psychology), this is likely to suggest greater vulnerability. We will be in contact with families whose children have been identified as vulnerable as a result of their additional support needs including family circumstances. This will include a range of children and young people, such as those who:

- Are on the child protection register
- Have been identified as at risk and need to be kept safe
- Are cared for by a family member or other carer due to difficulties at home
- Are affected by disability
- Require support due to bereavement
- Have a child's plan at Stage 3 or 4 of the Staged Intervention Process (if required)
- Need additional support as a result of a significant impact on your family as a result of COVID-19

If you have not been contacted, but feel your child should be considered in this category, please contact us by *emailing* newtonps@stirling.gov.uk on 7 January.

School meal provision for those entitled to free school meals will continue via the extension of additional payments planned during the holiday period. Lunches will be available to children attending school.

School transport will continue to be provided for children and young people who will be attending school over this period.

Thank you in advance for your continued support at this unprecedented and uncertain time.

If you have further questions, more details are available on [the Stirling Council website](#).

Google Link Form - <https://forms.gle/v9BE1n4vtPXxq4ENA>

Kind regards

Linda Kane
Headteacher