

18th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We understand that there may be a lockdown imposed over the Christmas period which may continue into the new year period.

See: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-55339234>

In preparation for a possible lockdown I wish to confirm the following

1. The school is planning to remain open for all the pupils under the guidance of PHA.
2. The Teacher will provide home learning packs through either remote access or practical resource packs sent home for any pupils that require this support in January.
3. ICT resources can be requested from the school and assessed for a loan agreement which can be arranged.
4. Other opportunities for remote learning classes will be explored depending on the needs of the child and the number of pupils attending school.

Currently the plan is based on ensuring that all pupils can come to school, however please beware that medical cover, personal care and safety depends on appropriate staff being available. This can change on a daily basis and although the school tries to plan and work to minimize this disruption, the school may still need to work closely with you as the parent/carer to overcome the issues.

The school will make every effort to ensure that every child has their needs met and we would ask for parents and carers to be patient as the school tries to work through each challenge as and if it gets presented.

The school is awaiting guidance on the following issues

- Staffing, it remains unclear where the school can access support if there are staffing issues.
- Transport, it remains unclear if transport will continue during a national lockdown, this is an Education Authority issue and they should keep you informed.

Remember the **school plans to be open on 4th January 2020**, any changes to what this will look like will be posted on the web site and a text message will be sent out. Dinners will be available in School from this date and we will clarify how this continues through a possible lockdown.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and we will get through this together.

Stay safe over this holiday period

Jonathan Gray
Principal

Broadening Horizons for Young People