

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. J.G. Prentice
Head of School: Mr B. Bowles
Deputy Head: Mr L. McDonald
Assistant Head of School : Miss L. Crane
Assistant Head of School: Mrs. T. Compton

Swale
ACADEMIES
TRUST



IPA

& Bright Sparks
Nursery

Langney Primary Academy, Chailey Close, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN23 7EA, 01323 762177, www.langneyprimary.co.uk
Swale Academies Trust, Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1JS, 01795 426091, www.swale.at

02.01.21

Dear Parents / Carers,

You are likely already aware from the government's announcement on 30th December that due to the latest mutated strain of Covid-19, which is much more transmissible, the decision has been made to close some primary schools in the most affected areas. In East Sussex this included Hastings and Rother, but not Eastbourne.

Our priority is, and has always been, to keep as many children as possible in school, if it is safe to do so. However, having reviewed our school risk assessment and considering the latest scientific advice, we regret to inform you that we have made the incredibly difficult decision that Langney Primary Academy will **NOT BE OPEN AS PLANNED ON MONDAY 4th January 2021. The school will, however, remain open for frontline key workers children and vulnerable children.** The risk assessment will be reviewed on a regular basis and we will keep you informed when it is safe for all children to return to school as normal. We are so sorry that this decision has been made with short notice but I am sure you will understand that there is a local and national rapidly changing picture due to the emergence of this new variant. This includes Bright Sparks Nursery.

We keep an updated list of children who have key workers as parents. Therefore these children may attend school at the usual staggered start time and pick up. You should not need this service if you are presently working from home. If you think your child is on the key worker list or circumstances have changed and you now believe that they now should be, please see Mr Bowles at the gate on Monday morning and we should be able to accommodate your child to allow you to carry out your important brave role. Bright Sparks Nursery will be open for these children.

It is expected that all children who remain at home engage in remote learning using Google Classroom LKL, *which will start on Tuesday 5th January 2021.* The school's remote learning offer is extremely strong as we have created a service which enables children to continue with the learning that would have taken place face-to-face at school. The vast majority of children now successfully access Google Classroom and interact with their teachers online. We also hold a list of pupils who do not have access to a device or internet, in which case alternative provision will be made with home learning packs from Tuesday. EYFS will use Tapestry to communicate.

On Monday, it would be great if your child can engage in TT Rockstars, Reading Bug, LKL, Spellings and any more family reading.

If your child is not engaging in any form of distance learning whilst the school is closed, please note that your child's class teacher will be in contact to discuss any barriers and if your child continues to not engage they will be considered vulnerable. We would then involve our pastoral team and look at further options that may involve sessions in school.

Please note that if you are a key worker, it will not be mandatory for your child to attend school. Children who attend school will be accessing exactly the same offer that children who are accessing remote learning are receiving - there will be no additional learning taking place in school. Class teachers will be working from home and providing live feedback from 9.00am - 3.00pm every day through Google Classroom. This should support all parents and carers even more.

If your child has an EHCP, is Looked After (foster care), or they have a Social Worker, school will remain open to them also.

If your child attended school as a vulnerable child in the previous school closure (ie the first national lockdown) you can safely assume that the same conditions apply this time. School staff are likely to contact you in order to clear up any concerns or provide further clarity on this on Monday.

Wrap around care (before and after school) will operate as normal for those pupils attending school.

Any child in school that would normally receive a Free School Meal will receive that on Monday and every day moving forward. We will provide for FSM children that are at home and we will be in touch on Monday on how we will action this.

Thank you for your continued support during this challenging time. The safety of our pupils, staff and families is of paramount importance.

We will continue to keep you updated at the earliest opportunity.

Kind Regards,

Julie Prentice
Executive Headteacher

Benjamin Bowles
Head of School



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