



31/12/20

School re-opening in January 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable and safe Christmas.

As you know, we have worked incredibly hard since the start of the pandemic in March to keep our school as safe as possible, and that work has continued over the Christmas holiday period. I would like to thank our incredible staff for their commitment and professionalism, which has seen many working over the holidays.

My letter today includes important information relating to when your child will return to school at the start of this coming term.

Following the Government announcement, whilst most primary schools will re-open as planned from Monday 4th January 2021, we are in an area of the country where this will not be the case because of high rates of Covid-19 transmission.

This means that at New Horizons Children's Academy:

- If your child is classed as vulnerable or if you or your partner is a critical worker, then your child will return to school on Tuesday 5th January
 - **New Horizons is running an inset day on Monday 4th January so the first day of term for children is on Tuesday 5th January.**
- If your child is not classed as vulnerable and if neither you nor your partner is a critical worker, then your child will not return to school until at least Monday 18th January in line with the government guidance. This is under continual review and I will of course let you know as soon as the Government decides that the school can re-open to all children. We will be providing remote learning each day via Microsoft Teams and Seesaw or Tapestry. We will send further information about this on Monday.

VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND CRITICAL WORKER PROVISION

I appreciate that for many parents, the closure of school will cause further disruption. We are committed to supporting our most vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.

Vulnerable children include those who:

- are assessed as any child with a social worker including children who are Looked After
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- other children who have been identified as otherwise vulnerable and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance- this group will be contacted by the school on Monday or by Social Care in the near future

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision:

- Health and social care
- Education or childcare
- Key public services
- Local or National Government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

If you wish to use this provision, please complete the below form in advance and email it to office@newhorizonschildrensacademy.org.uk by 12:00pm on Monday 4th January.

You must give the school 24 hours' notice that you need to use this provision so that we can provide appropriate staffing. Children arriving without giving 24 hours' notice may be turned away if we do not have adequate staffing.

Please be aware that during w/c 4th January, provision for this group of children will be slightly different from their usual lessons, as children will be required to form a new independent bubble that will contain only these children. This is to reduce risk and prevent any unnecessary mixing with other bubbles.

Breakfast club will be available for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers during this period. Usual drop-off arrangements will apply.

As before, a great deal of planning and risk assessment has gone into ensuring that our school continues to be as safe as for pupils and staff, in line with latest Government and Public Health England guidance. We will continue to take decisions in the best interests of our pupils, working with you and keeping you informed every step of the way.

You may also have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms will be conducted in some schools this term. However, this relates only to secondary schools and therefore we are unaffected.

I hope that the information in this letter is helpful and clear but if you have any questions, please do email the school office and these will be responded to on Monday. I will write to you again soon to keep you updated with the latest information.

In the meantime, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy New Year. Please do continue to take care and stay safe.

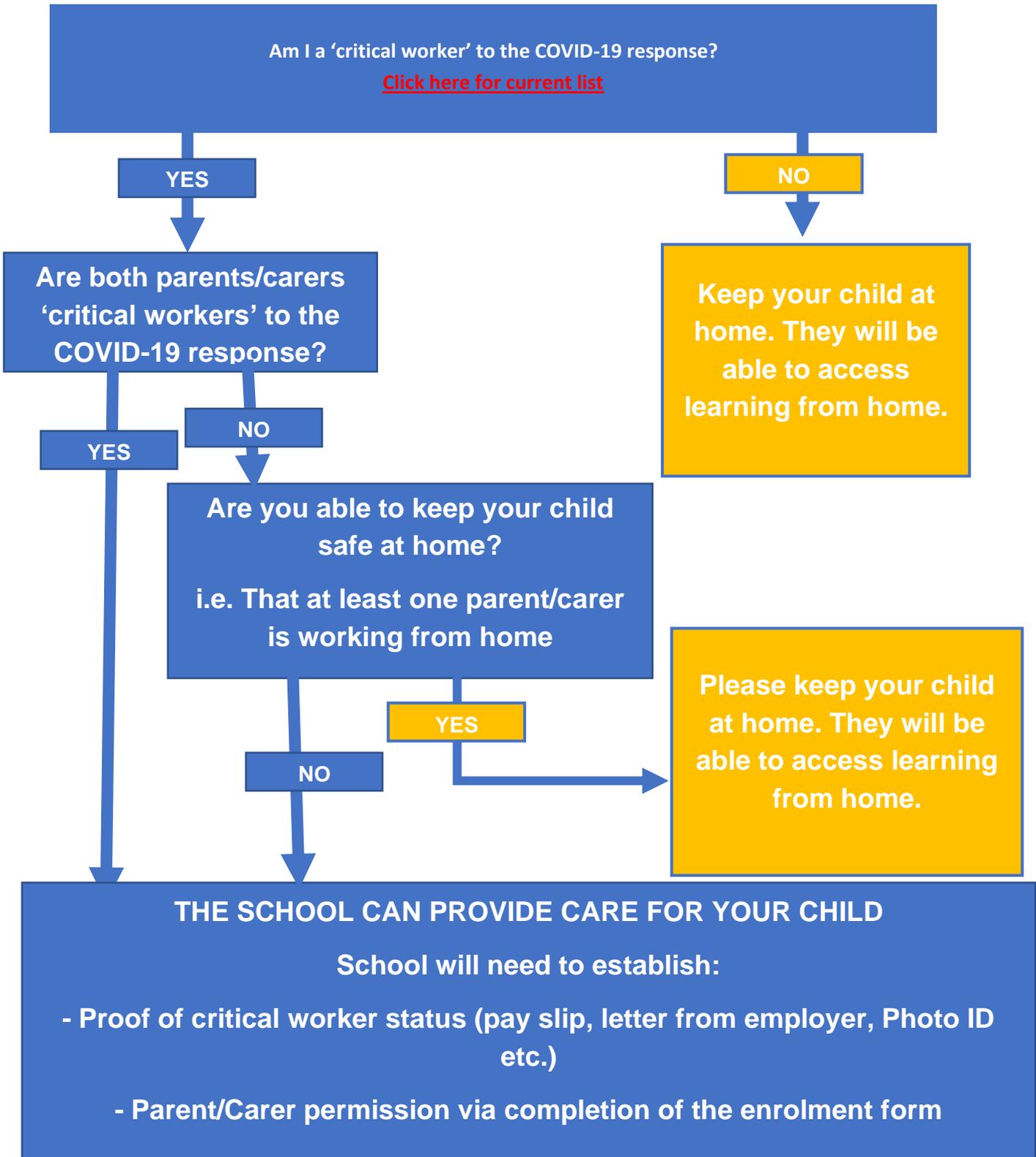
Yours sincerely,



Mr C Murphy

Headteacher

New Horizons Children's Academy



Supervision for eligible children at school

Name of student:	Year group:	Class:
------------------	-------------	--------

Reason for eligibility:

Key worker? Yes / No	If yes – what is your role?	Please tick to confirm that you have attached evidence of role – please see below for guidance.
Vulnerable student? Yes / No	The school will already have the evidence of this	

Days you would like your child to be supervised – **please tick days you will require supervision for your child in school.**

	Tues 5 th	Weds 6 th	Thurs 7 th	Friday 8 th
Mon 11 th	Tues 12 th	Weds 13 th	Thurs 14 th	Friday 15 th

We would like children who are attending school from Tuesday onwards to do the following:

- Arrive at school between 08:45 and 09:00 - please drop off at the main reception.
- Be picked up between 15:15 and 15:30.
- Maintain the school’s behaviour policy.
- Wear normal school uniform.
- Complete the work set by their school so that they can continue their learning during this time.

If numbers wanting to access the critical worker/vulnerable children bubble are higher than staffing allows, vulnerable children will be prioritised.

I understand that:

- **If anyone in my household exhibits symptoms of Coronavirus my child will not attend school for 10 days from the point that the symptoms started. The school will need to be notified.**
- **If my child exhibits any symptoms of the Coronavirus they will not attend school for 10 days from the date of symptom onset and until they are better and no longer have any symptoms. The school will be notified.**
- **If my child exhibits any symptoms of the Coronavirus whilst in childcare they will be isolated and I will be asked to pick them up immediately. The school will advise me of the self-isolation timeline.**
- **If a child in the key worker bubble tests positive for Coronavirus, the school will carry out track and trace and notify parents if their child needs to be collected to self-isolate**

Please sign below to confirm that you have read and understood this letter and the expectations for children attending for on-site learning:

Parental name	Parent signature	Date

Evidence of role should include one of the following:

- Signed letter from employer stating that you work in the services listed here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#critical-workers>
- Pay slip, letter from employer, Photo ID from Emergency services, Education, Government etc.