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1st January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Urgent information re: delayed opening January 2021

We hope this letter finds you well and that you and your family had a restful and peaceful festive break.

On Wednesday the Government announced that primary schools in the majority of London boroughs will not physically open to pupils next week, other than for vulnerable children and those whose parents are Critical workers. Haringey was not one of the boroughs included despite Covid-19 infection rates being higher and the rates rising greater than in many of those boroughs that were.

It is the council's opinion that it is not safe for primary schools in Haringey to open next week for primary children and staff:

'...at the current time, when infection rates in parts of London with lower rates than Haringey are deemed by the Government too high to allow children and staff to return, it cannot be safe for children and teaching staff in Haringey to do so. Consequently, we believe that all primary schools in Haringey should therefore open only to the children of key workers and vulnerable children next week and we will support all our schools in this approach.'

You can read the full statement from the leader of the council here:

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/news/returning-primary-school-statement-leader-and-deputy-leader>

The Association of Directors of Public Health London (ADPHL) have also stated that:

'... the principle to delay the reopening of primary schools should apply to all boroughs across London at the same time, if the measure is to have the impact of limiting transmission across London and keeping staff, children and our communities safe.'

In the second half of the autumn term, we experienced a considerable increase of Covid-19 cases within the school population. In addition, during the two week break several members of staff and pupils tested positive for Covid-19. Taking this into consideration along with the statements made by Haringey council and the ADPHL regarding concerns about the safety of staff and pupils, we feel we have no choice but for **Rokesly Infants, Nursery and Juniors Schools to remain closed to all but Critical worker and vulnerable children from Tuesday 5th January to Friday 8th January**. This situation will be regularly reviewed.

During this closure, school staff will liaise with the local authority and review risk assessments and procedures and protective measures to reduce the risk of further infections with a view to reopening as soon as possible.

Class teachers will provide remote learning for all pupils. Details about how to access this are attached to this letter. Any vulnerable children or those of Critical workers who are in school will access remote learning resources, supervised by support staff. The school day will run from 9am to 3pm and children will need to bring a packed lunch. Please contact the school office by 10am on Monday 4th January 2021 if you feel your child fulfils the criteria for Critical worker childcare.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and we wish you and your families a very healthy and Happy New Year with the hope of better and more positive times to come in 2021.

With best wishes,

Bola Soneye-Thomas

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Headteacher

Grant Bright

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