



Headteacher: Mrs. S. Nasa

“Guiding, Preparing, Succeeding”

4.01.21

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Graiseley Primary School is firmly of the view that the best place for children is in schools.

Our Governors have decided to close as we currently are unable to ensure that the school is safe for us to open fully. The decision to move to remote learning as you know lies with the school’s Governing Body not the Local Authority. The decision has been based on the current Covid-19 infections in the City:

- 1. The rate in Wolverhampton is increasing fast and there is no evidence of it slowing*
- 2. The rate is currently at 674.7 per 100,000 as of the 31 December 2020. This rate was 337 on 24 December 2020*
- 3. Wolverhampton’s positivity rate is at its highest point since the pandemic started – 24.3%, in line with many London boroughs*
- 4. Over the last 2 weeks we have seen an extreme spike in Covid case numbers, far exceeding anything previously*
- 5. Wolverhampton’s Covid case rate is seeing a significant increase across all age ranges including children*
- 6. Currently our profile is similar to that of London and the South East 2-3 weeks ago*
- 7. Based on the current high positivity rate and increasing overall rate, it is highly likely the new more aggressive variant is within the City*
- 8. School teachers and Support staff unions are advising that the above evidence means that it is not currently advisable to engage in face to face lessons with large classes.*

We will remain open for key pupils who have been contacted separately. Please arrive through the main office entrance after 8.40 am and collect your child at 3.15 pm from the usual gates.

We will use **remote learning** to continue to teach all pupils in all year groups from Monday 4th January. We are using a blended approach where work packs are provided
1. For immediate use 2. To engage in live learning lessons from Tuesday 5th January, on Teams. If you are struggling to access the lessons, we are looking to provide Pupil

Premium and children on the SEN register with a laptop or iPad to loan. We will send out further messages when we are able to begin this loan process.

Class teachers and support staff will call you throughout the week and contact you by email to invite your child to the live lessons each day. Please **answer** the calls as the incoming call will be marked "**Private Number.**"

It is important that you and your child access the lessons and phone calls from the teachers **every day** to prevent your child losing valuable learning opportunities.

You will already have received an email address on which you can directly contact class teachers with any queries about teaching and learning.

Please email us at graiseleyprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk with **your own email address** if you have not already done so.

For those families who are entitled to Free School Meals, those who are attending at school will continue to receive a daily hot meal. For those accessing the remote learning from home, the catering company will provide daily packed lunches to be collected from school in the short term.

Please accept our apologies in the lateness of this communication, but you will appreciate much of this was outside our direct control.

Please be assured we will do our best to ensure the best education is provided for your child, be that remotely or face to face.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nasa