



Alameda Middle School

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4th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Unfortunately, following a review of our risk assessment and advice from our health and safety advisor, in light of our catchment being in a tier four area, considering the risk from the new variant of COVID-19 which spreads between 50-70% more easily and the surge in cases in the community I have made the decision that Alameda will only open from Tuesday 5th January 2020 for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers in ALL year groups. A further factor is that we have insufficient staff to make it possible to teach all children in years 5 and 6 in school.

This means that from Tuesday 5th January all lessons will be taught through Google Classroom for ALL year groups as was the plan for years 7 and 8 already. More details about learning and how lessons will be delivered will follow later.

To clarify, pupils in all year groups will need to stay at home and access learning via Google Classroom from Tuesday 5th January other than those who have applied for a critical worker place or are invited as a vulnerable child.

This will be the case up to January 18th. We will continue to take advice and review the situation and will, of course, keep you informed.

Parents of children in years 7 and 8 will have already applied for a critical worker place via Edulink. We will send out similar information to parents of children in years 5 and 6 later today.

Please note that children of critical workers will be accessing learning via Google Classroom in the same way as the rest of their class at home.

More information on home learning will follow later as will an update about testing.

As always, I am aware that this will be received with mixed views. Closing a school to the majority of pupils is one of the worst things I have had to do in my career as a headteacher and is not a decision taken lightly. I will continue to keep in touch and will keep you updated.

Yours sincerely

Miss M Warner
Headteacher