



## VICTORIA LANE ACADEMY

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A member of Tudhoe Learning Trust



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### School Closure Letter 6<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to you today to outline the sudden changes we have faced - following the government announcement late Monday night to close all schools with immediate effect from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - engaging with remote learning until February half term.

As you will appreciate, this was a massive U-turn, which was largely unforeseen and unexpected by primary schools, resulting in a huge amount of planning and organisation behind the scenes at extremely short notice.

School reopened yesterday only for the children of 'Critical Workers' and those classed as vulnerable. Schools cannot accept any other pupils as the aim of this third national lockdown is to minimise the risk of virus transmission, which has escalated rapidly. Thank you for your prompt emails and telephone calls if you required child care, as this has enabled us to establish our critical key worker and vulnerable children bubbles with immediate effect. Most of the class bubbles are already now operating at full capacity in line with our Covid-secure risk assessment.

#### Remote Learning at home:

Victoria Lane Academy has been busy organising detailed Remote Learning for all children and the same education is being provided for all pupils, regardless of whether they are accessing it in school or learning at home. Exercise books are available from school if you require one as a method of recording online learning for all subjects. Free internet access can also be provided - please contact the office for more information. All of the teaching staff have attempted to contact every parent or pupil by email already and the first day of online learning today has been very successful. If you are experiencing any issues accessing the remote learning or require any support, please contact your child's teacher by email, or telephone the school office as all staff are in school every day to support you and your children.

#### Free School Meals:

As yet, we are still awaiting further guidance on how Free School Meals will be administered to children learning remotely at home and as soon as we know more about this, we will be in touch. It is essential that Mrs Turnbull has your latest email address, as without this we cannot send any FSM vouchers. Please email Mrs Turnbull with this information if your email has recently changed (and any changes to contact telephone numbers) to [office@victorialanepprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@victorialanepprimary.co.uk)

In conclusion, please can I thank you for your continued support at what is an incredibly challenging time, both for you as parents and carers, for us as staff and governors but perhaps most importantly, for our children who have once again been plunged into uncertainty and disruption in what is a crucial time in their learning. By continuing to work together to provide the best quality remote learning possible, we will once again rise to the unprecedented challenges facing us. As always, if you need any further support or advice, please contact us via [office@victorialanepprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@victorialanepprimary.co.uk) or telephone 01388 603588.

Many thanks: stay safe, everyone.

Mrs Jane Richardson  
Headteacher

Mr David Bowes  
Chair of Governors



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