

Aspiration  
Respect  
Endeavour

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Roding Valley  
HIGH SCHOOL

5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Today, Thursday 5th November, New National Restrictions come into force to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). The full government restrictions for education can be read via this [link](#).

The guidance states that 'The government continues to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our children and young people and will not be closing early years' settings, schools, further education (FE) colleges or universities. It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians. Senior clinicians still advise that school is the best place for children to be, and so they should continue to go to school. Schools have implemented a range of protective measures to make them safe. Childcare or education is one of the exceptions that children, young people and parents and carers can leave their home for.'

This highlights the point that students must go straight home at the end of the school day, they must not congregate or travel in groups. They should not be going to Sainsbury's or the high street and should go directly home.

All of our original guidance and safety guidelines will continue during the lockdown period. These can be viewed on our website [COVID-19 Safety Measures](#). Your child should not attend school if they are unwell. The government regulations do now specify some additional important points:

The wearing of face coverings is now mandatory in secondary schools. Students and staff must wear them when they move between classrooms, in corridors and all communal areas. At Roding Valley High School students can wear them in the classroom if they so wish and vulnerable staff may ask the students to wear them during the lesson as appropriate. Please ensure that your child always has a face covering with them. If the school does supply your child with a face-covering, then there will be a £1 charge placed on your parent pay account. Please do let us know if you are suffering any financial hardship as the school may be able to support with curriculum, PPE and uniform requirements. Students must wear them on public transport.

- **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) Pupils** - According to government guidance issued, most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice. We have already made contact with parents of CEV children but if you are concerned as you think your



child may be CEV then please contact the school. Please note, guidance on the definition of [Clinically Extremely Vulnerable](#) in this lockdown period.

Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education.

- **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) Staff / Remote Education** - Those individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) must work from home and must not go into work. This has impacted on us as a school as we now have staff who cannot now attend the school site. Where these CEV are teaching staff, they will continue to teach remotely from home with a cover teacher in the classroom but should we experience further staff absence due to sickness or self-isolation then this will affect our ability to safely supervise the number of students that we do have on-site. I am hopeful that we will be able to continue to offer the full-time provision during the lockdown period but if the staff workforce is depleted, then from time to time we may ask some year groups to be remotely educated. Please do note that this could be an emergency, early morning decision but we would obviously try to give parents as much notice as possible. Communication would be by our normal channels, text, email and notices on our website. Please do ensure that you have now registered for [EduLink One](#).
- **Exams** - The guidance states, 'The Prime Minister and Education Secretary have been clear that exams will go ahead next summer, as they are the fairest and most accurate way to measure a pupil's attainment. Pupils now have more time to prepare for their exams next year, as most AS, A Levels and GCSEs will be held 3 weeks later to help address the disruption caused by the pandemic.'

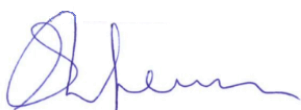
We will continue to work incredibly hard to prioritise the provision being offered to our exam groups at the school to ensure that they are best prepared to achieve their potential in the summer examination series.

There will be no extra-curricular clubs during this period.

Only essential, pre-planned visitors will be allowed on the school site. Meetings with parents will be predominantly by phone or google meets. Face to face meetings are to be avoided.

If you have concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact the school, my priority is the safety of everyone in the school community and the continued safe operation of the school.

Kind regards



Sharon Jenner  
Headteacher