



12th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

ON-SITE LEARNING DURING NATIONAL LOCKDOWN

We are writing to you following an update to government guidance, which we received at 4pm on Friday last week.

Significantly, in relation to on-site learning for children of critical workers, this guidance now states:

'Your child's school or college will speak to you to identify whether your child needs to attend. You should keep your child at home if you can. They may ask to see simple evidence to check whether you are a critical worker such as your work ID badge or a pay slip.'

It is therefore very clear that parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can. On-site learning is **only** to be used by those who are on the frontline in the attempt to save lives during the coronavirus pandemic, and where there is no other possible alternative.

We are sure you will have seen that cases are increasing rapidly in our local area. If not, you can check these for yourself here: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map>. The Borehamwood area is currently running in excess of 1100 cases per 100,000. This is one of the highest rates in Hertfordshire.

The message from government over the weekend is very clear: we must all be doing everything we can do to reduce all social contact by staying at home. Attendance at school, on-site, involves a range of social contacts and should only be happening where absolutely necessary.

This will significantly reduce the risk of transmission of this deadly virus between children, families and staff.

We know that you will be worried about the impact of lockdown on your child's mental health. This is true for all children in the school and is not a reason for you to access on-site learning.

The only reason you should be accessing on-site learning is to enable you undertake your critical role.

Thank you for your ongoing support during this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

The Headteachers of The Borehamwood and Elstree Consortium

