



Porters Grange Primary School & Nursery

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Principal Miss D. Henley

Vice Principal Mr M. Aggus

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PORTICO
ACADEMY TRUST

opening doors, unlocking potential

CEO - Mrs C. Woolf

Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Government has announced that primary schools in Southend on Sea will need to use remote learning for the start of term. This means **Porters Grange school building will be closed to most children** and will only be open for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children from Monday January 4th. The Government are going to review this in line with the number of cases and the speed at which they are rising.

We are aware that this will cause some families concerns and difficulties but this is a necessary measure due to the new strain of the virus which is causing a significant increase of cases and placing a huge strain on the NHS locally. If you feel you require support, please contact us.

On Monday 4th January there will be work available to all children on Seesaw. If you have forgotten your Seesaw password then please email:- ITsupport@pgps.porticoacademytrust.co.uk to request a new one.

Further guidance will be sent out on Monday explaining how to access the lessons which will be delivered each day by your child's teacher. It is expected that your child/ren will attend the lessons and complete the work set during this period.

If you believe you are eligible and wish to access the onsite provision for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children, **please complete the form by 3pm on Friday 1st January 2021**. This is really important as we need to know numbers in order to plan appropriate staffing. The school day times will be the same as those last term, however we will be unable to offer breakfast club during the first week. The form can be accessed by clicking on the following link: <https://forms.gle/4ki5s6nkNYia8qUF8>

The Director for Public Health in Southend has advised all children and their families to arrange a test before returning to school. This is to try and identify those people who have the virus and do not have any symptoms, stopping them from unknowingly spreading the virus within our school community. The test centres are very busy at present and the turn-around time for the results longer. Please try to have a test 3-4 days before your child returns to school.

We believe the plans we have in place will keep our community safe whilst still providing education for our children. In these unprecedented times changes to advice often happen quickly with short notice. We will continue to follow the national and local guidance, adapt our plans accordingly and let you know of any changes as soon as possible.

I would like to send you warm wishes for the new year and hope you and your families keep safe and well during this difficult period.

Yours sincerely

Miss D Henley
Principal

We are a **good** school in all areas

"The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is Outstanding"

