

# Holland Haven Primary School

*'Reach for the Stars'*

**Headteacher: Mrs S Bardetti B.Ed NPQH**

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to wish you a very happy new year and I hope and pray that this year will be better than the one we have left behind.

I am sure that you all watched the government present their spring term plans for schools on Wednesday 30th December. Much of the speech was confusing, especially when we are told that 'testing of primary school staff would continue', when it has not even started. I believe it will now begin sometime in January. I do feel extremely sorry for secondary heads who have been left trying to figure out how to roll out mass testing in their schools.

Being moved from Tier 2 to 4 was quite a shock for Tendring, as we had been doing really well up until this point. The new variant is extremely concerning and we are told that transmission is faster due to this change to the virus. We have seen a huge increase in cases in Tendring over the past week and I was quite astonished when Tendring was excluded from the Essex list of closed schools (or rather schools open only for key workers and vulnerable pupils). By the time you read this letter it may be out of date news, but I felt that I needed to communicate with you before Monday. If anything changes I will write to you again.

At Holland Haven, over Christmas, many of our staff have directly experienced the virus and the loss it brings. I am certain that many of you are also experiencing this. We are going to have to get through the next term one day at a time. This week, I have met with my Senior Leadership Team and we have discussed ways forward so that we can open our school and educate our pupils accordingly from 5th January. I must inform you however, that we already have staff shortages and if we find ourselves in a situation where we have significant staff shortages, we may need to close whole class bubbles. This is not something we will do unless we have exhausted all avenues. If, at any point, we have to close a class bubble or if your child needs to isolate due to COVID, we will provide remote learning for your child. We are not able to provide remote learning for pupils who do not attend out of choice.

It is absolutely essential that if your child has had any direct contact with COVID over the Christmas break, you must make sure 10 days of isolation has been taken before you send your child back to school. It was 14 days but for some reason it has been changed to 10 days.

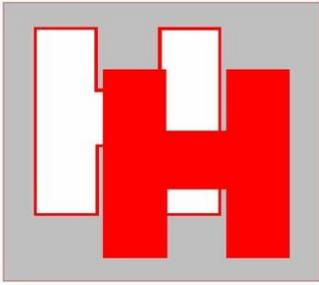
Please can you contact the school office by phone (01255 813704) or email ([admin@hollandhaven.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hollandhaven.essex.sch.uk)) by Monday 4th January to let us know if your child is not returning to school and why.

I would like to remind you of a few things which we feel will help us all stay safe.

**Primrose Road  
Holland-on-Sea  
Essex CO15 5PP  
Tel: 01255 813704  
Fax: 01255 812641**



**Email: [admin@hollandhaven.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hollandhaven.essex.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.hollandhavenschool.co.uk](http://www.hollandhavenschool.co.uk)**



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- Pupils may only bring into school a bag, water bottle and packed lunch. All pupils will need their coats. Younger pupils need to wear shoes they can manage themselves.
- PE kits can be worn on PE days, but they must be school uniform PE kits and tracksuits must be plain red, black or grey with no logos please.
- Staff and parents may **NOT** talk at the classroom doors. So please call or email the school office if you have any concerns.
- Please can **ALL** parents wear a face covering or visors when on our school site. Many parents have expressed how uncomfortable they feel about some parents continuously ignoring this request. With the new variant this will only help all of us stay safe.
- Please do not stand in groups chatting on the playground. Do not allow your child to play with those from another bubble as this just makes a mockery of the actions we are taking in school to keep pupils safe in bubbles.
- There will be no visitors to school unless absolutely necessary. You can contact the school office with any concerns and the class teacher, member of the SLT or pastoral team will contact you.
- Start and finish times are the same and the rules around late arrivals are also the same.

As always, all the staff at Holland Haven will do their very best to provide an enjoyable and safe learning experience for our pupils. However, we also need all of you to do your part in keeping our school community safe too. I hope to see you all on 5th January.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Bardetti  
Headteacher

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