



January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **School Closure with Immediate Effect**

Further to the announcement from the Prime Minister yesterday evening, I am very sorry to have to inform you that Higham Lane School will be closed with immediate effect to all students other than those the School recognises as vulnerable, and the children of critical workers. This comes into effect from today (Tuesday 5 January). The full list of those occupations considered by the Government to be 'critical' can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintainededucational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintainededucational-provision>.

Please note that the Government has updated this list.

We feel very sad that we have now reached a situation where our school has to close.

I will write again to you over the coming days if we receive any updated guidance from the Government.

We will now focus all of our efforts on providing high quality remote learning including use of Google Classroom and Zoom. The information about this has already been issued to you as we knew that we would be beginning this term with remote learning.

The Prime Minister has stated that he does not think it is possible for all exams in the summer to go ahead as planned. We will need to await further guidance before advising Year 11 and 13 students on the next steps but we have sent a message to the students in these two year groups to reassure them. We will write to the parents/carers of Year 11 and Year 13 with further information about this as soon as we have further guidance to share.

With the vaccine now slowly rolling out across the country, we hope that this period of school closure will at least be much shorter than the previous one. The Prime Minister's announcement suggested that schools should be able to re-open after February half term.

If you have any queries, please kindly contact the relevant member of staff using [contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk](mailto:contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk)

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding. I want to reassure you that we will be working hard to make sure that students continue to receive high quality education and that they are supported through these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

P.Kelly  
Headteacher

(KL-AA) School Closure with Immediate Effect - January 2021