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03.01.21

Dear Parents & Carers,

**Some classes unable to reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021**

It is with regret that we have to inform you that **some classes** of Angel Road Infant School and Nursery, **will not** be reopening as planned on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

I am sure that many of you will have been following the national news regarding primary school openings across the country, the new strain of the virus, the evidence about its transmission in young people from the Imperial College London coupled with the safety advice be given to staff from their professional bodies.

After careful consideration of all information available to me and in consultation with Evolution Academy Trust, I have decided we are unable to provide safe staffing levels and therefore we have to keep **Owl, Rabbit, Squirrel and Hedgehog classes closed** to pupils except to those who are classed as vulnerable and the children of critical workers (see list below). We hope to be able to inform eligible families when this provision will start and will make this a top priority.

**Reception and Nursery and Otter class will be open.**

We will constantly review staffing levels and the most up to date guidance and advice from Public Health England to see if we are able to open safely for more pupils.

We are very disappointed that there has not been clearer decision making from the Department for Education and the stress and uncertainty this has caused. We know it is unsettling for children and very difficult for families and staff to manage.

Further communication will follow tomorrow.

Evolution Academy Trust is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales with company number 08158619. The Registered Office is at Suite 1, Keswick Hall, Keswick, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 6TJ

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Remote learning will be provided to all children who are at home via See Saw. Please ensure that your children access and complete their work as we want as little disruption to their education as we can. We will keep in touch with you about this.

If your child falls into the vulnerable or critical worker category, a form will be sent out tomorrow for you to complete and return to the school office.

With my very best wishes,

Lindsay Moody  
Head of School

### **Critical workers**

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

#### **Health and social care**

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

#### **Education and childcare**

This includes:

childcare

support and teaching staff

social workers

specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

#### **Key public services**

This includes:

those essential to the running of the justice system

religious staff

charities and workers delivering key frontline services

those responsible for the management of the deceased

journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

### **Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of: the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

### **Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food:  
production  
processing  
distribution  
sale and delivery  
as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

### **Public safety and national security**

This includes:  
police and support staff  
Ministry of Defence civilians  
contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)  
fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)  
National Crime Agency staff  
those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

### **Transport and border**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

### **Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes:  
staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)  
the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)  
information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response

key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)  
postal services and delivery  
payments providers  
waste disposal sectors

**Vulnerable children and young people include those who:**

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child (those with a social worker)
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include: children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services adopted children or children on a special guardianship order those living in temporary accommodation those who are young carers those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study) care leavers others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health