



Spalding High School

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Headmistress Mrs M Anderson B.Ed

16th December 2021

Dear parents, carers and students,

I have every expectation (and sincere hope) that schools will return as planned in January. The Government have made it clear that their priority is to maintain face-to-face on-site education and we have to remember that during the third lockdown, schools remained fully open and accessible despite national restrictions in most other areas.

However, if there is one thing that the pandemic has taught us it has been the importance of being prepared and so this letter is to cover just a few “just in case” scenarios.

All students should empty their lockers of folders, books and equipment at the end of this term.

If we have school closure in January, we will move to remote learning following the normal school timetable. Staff will deliver lessons remotely and we will share the parental and student guide to remote learning in January should the government shut schools.

During previous lockdowns, we surveyed parents and students regarding IT, computer and Wi-Fi provision. If we move to remote learning, parents should notify Mr. Love via enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk on the first day of Term 3 if students do not have access to a computer to work on and school will do what we can to assist.

We would anticipate that if we have school closure as part of a national lockdown, the government would ensure schools are open to key worker children and vulnerable children, as was the case in lockdowns one and two. At that time, the government gave detailed information identifying critical key worker categories and vulnerable children definitions. Whilst this has not been updated since March 2021, the link below contains useful information:

[Children of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/children-of-critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings)

If schools are closed, I have no doubt this will be updated and we will follow the advice given should that be the case.

Parents who would wish to access a key worker/vulnerable child place in the event of school closure in January will in the first instance, simply need to email the enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk notifying us that their child will attend school on the **first day of term** so that we know to expect them.

School staff will be in touch with key worker parents/parents of vulnerable children on the first day of term to re-confirm key worker/vulnerable status according to any updated guidance issued by the government over the next three weeks.

The transport department have not issued updates with regards to school transport provision should schools be closed at the start of next term.

Should the Government issue new operational guidance to schools over the Christmas holidays we will contact parents via the In Touch system to alert you to updated information on the school website. We all very much hope that this will not be needed.

With best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and New Year,

M K Anderson
Headmistress