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Scholars Academy Trust
Company Number 8515149

LAUNDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

New Street Oadby Leicester LE2 4LJ

8 January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to thank all the parents for their patience and support that has been shown over this week. It has been extremely difficult for staff to change their plans at the last minute as everyone had assumed we would be back at school as normal.

We appreciate that it has been hard for you as parents to home school the children alongside having to do your own work. When the teacher is at school they are managing their own class at home as well as schooling within the classroom. Please be assured that the staff are not sitting at home doing nothing and the school day for them does not finish at 3.15pm as they then have to sort out the learning for the next day.

As was stated in the letter yesterday the teachers are providing between 3 to 4 hours work each day but if any parent wishes to do further work with their children then please visit the Oak Academy website <https://classroom.thenational.academy/> or the BBC bitesize website <https://bbc.co.uk/bitesize>. Both these sites are providing additional work that schools can use. However, as you can see the teachers at Launde are not using these sites unless it links directly into what was already planned so parents can be assured that it will be different work to the one provided by Launde but still be age appropriate.

Key worker places

We would like to thank the parents who have supported the school by keeping their children at home to stay safe. The lockdown is in place to limit contact outside the household so when you or your children leave the house, you are then increasing the contacts which does not support the stay at home and stay safe concept. Unfortunately, we have much larger numbers of children in school during this lockdown than we previously had. Therefore, we are now having to limit the number of places for key worker children and apply a criteria. Staff are also expected to provide high quality remote learning which is difficult to do if they are teaching all day and provide remote learning at the same time. For that reason, we would encourage as many parents to keep their children at home rather than take up a key worker place. We are now prioritising places for those parents who are **both** critical workers first and moving forward that will our criteria so if any place has been taken up on the basis of one parent being a critical worker we would like those children to remain at home and carry on with remote learning. Please see the attached list for prioritising places for which we expect parents to provide proof of employment within the front line services.

We know that some parents have consciously taken up places at school even when one parent does not work and is at home. We know this is in line with the government

guidance but we cannot accommodate the large numbers that are requesting places hence having to prioritise places. If a parent is at home or working from home, we do expect you to keep your child at home so we can all support each other and ensure school places are given to families where both parents are providing front line services before offering other places. The numbers of children are also being limited on the grounds of safety as we need our staff and children to feel safe within school and this can only be achieved if we limit the numbers. Therefore, we will only accept up to 15 children per age group. Schools were given further information last night that staff should remain at least 2 metres away from children, which is different to the advice given last term and this social distancing can only be achieved if we limit the numbers within school. We would advise parents who have sent their children to school to consider how they can best support everyone to stay safe and do the children really need to be at school if one of them is at home or you can make alternative arrangements. Again, if we have not yet seen proof of employment from those parents we will require it.

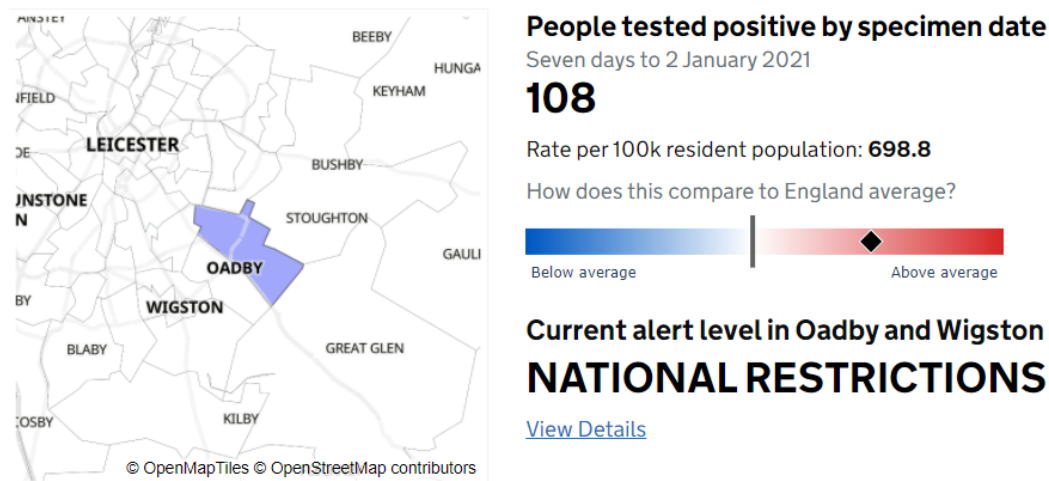
Please note that should we find out that any parent has been abusing the system of the eligibility of coming to school, then we shall have no choice but send your child home for you to work on home schooling.

I know the above decision will upset some families but taking the decision to limit places has not been easy but we have a duty of care to keep staff and children safe. Senior managers also have the duty to safeguard staff welfare and as I stated earlier school staff are working very hard to meet your children's needs in and out of school. The government has issued guidance on the key workers but it is up to schools as to how they use it to best suit the needs of the school and fulfil the need of remote learning which is mandatory.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone but we all need to work together to keep everyone safe

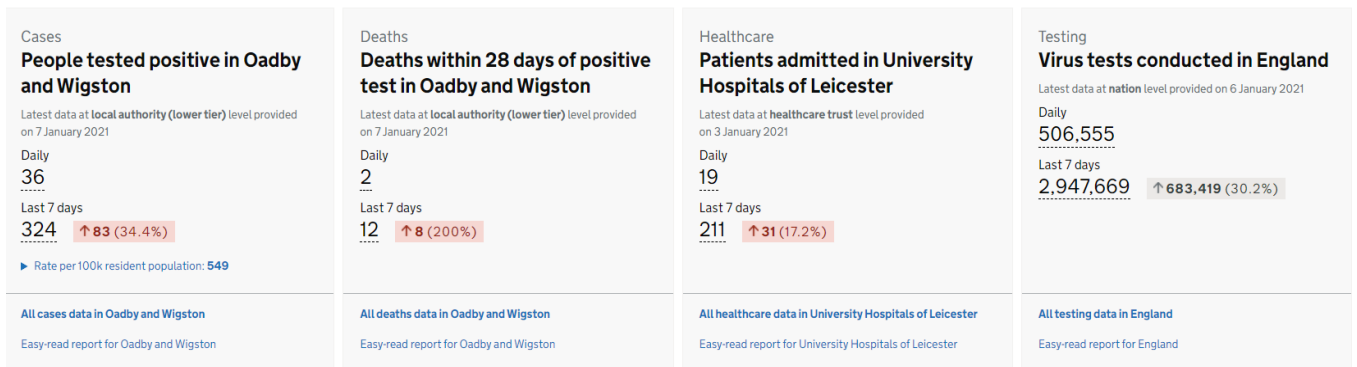
We have attached the latest figures for the Leicestershire postcode area, as we thought you would be interested in how high it is within our local area and why we want to reduce the contacts that children, staff and parents have within school. These are the latest figures as of yesterday.

LE2 4LJ – Oadby North & East



Additional relevant data available for LE2 4LJ:

Some data are not available at local levels — for example, virus tests conducted is only available at nation level.



The North/East area of Oadby is particularly high so please can everyone adhere to the rules of lockdown to bring those infection levels down.

These figures are available on a daily basis on the following website
<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/search?postcode=LE2+4LJ>

Please take care and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Inderjit Sandhu
 Executive Headteacher

Critical workers and vulnerable children – priority criteria January 2021

Following the Government announcement of the closure of all schools in January 2021, schools in the Scholars Trust will be offering on site places to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children as required in the guidance. This will now be organised on a school by school basis.

If demand exceeds supply we will use our priority system and this is explained in the table below.

Please note:

- Due to the fact that staff will now be needed to run online learning 15 children per age group can be accommodated.
- These places are intended for families who have **no other adult at home** to look after children and who are immediately required in the response to this virus. Priority will be given to children whose parents are both critical workers. Regardless of your critical worker status if there is an adult at home you will not be offered a place;
- We reserve the right to request additional information direct from your workplace to confirm that you are needed on site, including shift patterns etc. and may ask you for further contact details.
- The safest place for children to be is at home at this time. Mixing with other children will heighten the risk of infection and should be avoided unless there are **NO OTHER OPTIONS**;
- School staff are under great pressure and response times will be slower than normal.

The School will allocate places according to these priorities:

Priority	Descriptor
<p>Priority 1 – will be allocated a place first</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS frontline clinical staff or administrators (eg NHS 911 etc.) working directly with Coronavirus patients; • First responders (ie paramedics or those who support them) • Police officers and some civilian police staff (eg dispatchers); • Firefighters; • Those in NHS support services needed to keep hospitals and clinics running – eg hospital porters, full time hospital cleaners etc. (Please explain when you apply). • Educational staff working on site.
<p>Priority 2 – will not be allocated a place when all places are not used by Priority 1 parents (effectively first waiting list)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other frontline NHS workers (eg, midwives, pathologists, CT scan operators, radiographers) • Local authority staff working in key emergency planning roles; • Those responsible for the management of the deceased; • Those medical staff involved in vaccination;

<p>Priority 3 – keyworkers who may be needed if/when the crisis escalates (effectively second waiting list – clinical staff ordered first)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those in other NHS/private care roles who will not be called upon to assist in Coronavirus cases – eg. Care home staff, researchers, private pharmacists, OT, NHS administrators, other medical specialities etc.) • Social workers; • Those involved with the supply chain for supermarkets and pharmacies (i.e. supermarket delivery drivers and those in supporting roles) • Those working in key transport roles (train drivers, bus drivers).
<p>Priority 4 – only able to offer a place if there are spaces left once tiers have been accommodated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved in the water industry – delivery or maintenance; • ICT or telecoms workers in critical roles (please explain when contacting the school) • Those employed in necessary government processes such as the payment of benefits; • Probation Service staff; • Those involved in fuel or gas deliveries or maintenance; • Transport and associated staff in support roles for transport services. In the previous lockdowns most to these staff were able to change shifts to accommodate childcare; • NHS medical students; • Those working in postal services and delivery; • Those working in waste disposal sectors.
<p>Priority 5 – places only offered if we have not reached our full allocation from the previous 4 priorities</p>	<p>Any other occupation that you consider to be critical. Please describe on survey.</p>