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Head Teacher: Anne Ansell – BEd (Hons), NPQH, NPQEL

Deputy Head Teachers: Claire Head NPQH & Simon Anderson

School Business Manager: Lindsay Harris

Chair of Governors: Trevor Kendrick

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the critical keyworkers in continuing to help communities in this unprecedented situation we find ourselves in.

Please be advised that we have had an overwhelming number of parents request places in school for their children. Therefore it is taking time to go through all new applications, so please be patient, as repeated phone calls and emails to the office is just holding up the process. We implore you to only accept a place in school if you have no alternative to keep your child at home.

If the decision is made that we do not consider your role to be a critical key worker, and you disagree, you will be entitled to explain how your role is 'critical to the coronavirus and EU transition response'.

The government is emphasising '**If it is at all possible for children to be at home then they should be.**' This is to provide your child with the safest environment at this time and to ensure social distancing.

If you are allocated a place and then your circumstances change or you no longer require this childcare place please inform us ASAP so we are able to reallocate the place. We will be limiting group sizes to enable social distancing to 15 children. Should we have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the bubble, it is likely that the whole bubble will be required to isolate for the 10 day period, this will include ALL children. To limit the risk of bubble closure to critical key worker families we will be limiting close contact wherever possible.

We have had an overwhelming number of parents requesting key worker status, please be clear that for the safety of staff and pupils we are currently trying to limit to one bubble per year group that will be limited to 15 pupils, we are waiting for government guidance to guide us on maximum capacity. Should requests exceed the maximum number, priority will be given in order of the list of critical key workers below;

1. Health & Social Care
2. Education & Childcare
3. Key public services
4. Public safety and national security
5. Food and other necessary good
6. Local and national government
7. Transport and border
8. Utilities, communication and financial services



Please only send children to school if;

- You are classed as a critical key worker
- You are not working from home
- There is no one at home to care for your child

**Please remember school is closed due to lockdown because of the pandemic and because of high levels of transmission. You should stay at home where possible.** In the event of being oversubscribed we will have to prioritise frontline staff. Therefore, at any point we reserve the right to decline part or all of the space offered if a critical key worker in a higher category requires a place.

I thought that it may be helpful to all parents to explain how we are organising home learning this time around. During this lockdown the class teachers will do all of their teaching remotely, therefore will not be supervising bubble groups. Children in school, will be completing their activities as set by the class teachers on the laptops and other occupying activities, these will be supervised by the teaching assistant who is allocated on the rota for that day.

Teachers will be sending detailed lesson planning for children to complete. Please get your children to follow the links and play the videos, there will be clear explanations of what they are required to do. Most KS2 children should be able to complete tasks independently. Work needs to be submitted to the teacher as instructed by the teacher, this may be via purple mash or email. Practical tasks can be photographed and emailed over to the class email address. It is crucial that children complete work to a high standard, if you think they can do better, then encourage that they do. It is critical that children do their best, this will help them to maintain their learning and this means they will have less gaps in their learning when they return to school. Teachers will be monitoring pupil engagement in their learning and this will be monitored by senior leaders. Teachers will contact you to let you know if they have concerns over your child's level of access to learning or the standard of their completed work.

We wish you all well and will work with you to do our best to provide a safe and nurturing environment for your children while you play your part in the critical response to the unprecedented situation that we find ourselves in.

Stay safe



Anne Ansell

Head Teacher

