



6th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Well, here we are again in a serious lockdown situation. It really is very worrying how the cases of the new coronavirus variant are increasing at such a rapid pace especially when we were all so hopeful for an optimistic start to 2021.

In a meeting with the local authority and Public Health yesterday, the message was very clear. **'Where a child can stay at home, they should. It is the safest place for them and the rest of the school community.'**

We are open to the children of parents who are critical workers or where children are vulnerable. We recognise that the guidance states that only one parent need to be a critical worker, however we are asking parents to seriously consider keeping their child at home if there is another parent at home. We know that working from home with young children around is challenging, however, if the rate of virus transmission does not decrease significantly then this situation could be prolonged.

We have over 90 children who have been allocated places at the moment and every child in school increases risk. If we have many more it will increase their risk and the risk to staff members who are working diligently to provide your child with what they need whilst at home or in school. If staff members become ill and have to isolate it may be that the school couldn't continue to operate even in a limited capacity so please bear this in mind.

Remote learning is in place and teachers are on hand to help your child if they are having difficulty accessing remote learning. Please continue to use Seesaw to communicate with your child's teacher or email the office with any queries. We will be receiving a small number of devices from the DFE which can be loaned to parents of children in Y3-6 where children either do not have access to devices or are having to share devices. As soon as they arrive, they need to be prepared by our IT department before they can be distributed. Please let us know if you would like to be considered for a device.

Printed work will continue to be provided every Monday for those parents who have requested copies. If you would like printed work then please let your child's teacher know via Seesaw or email the office and we can add them to the list. We need this information so that the staff can print out the correct amount of copies and all copies will be named.

We understand that this is a difficult and stressful time for parents, children and staff and we are doing our very best to steer everyone safely through to better times.

The more we all play our part in staying at home, the quicker we will all be back to normal.

Thank you as ever for your continued and valued support.

Caroline Barriball & Samantha Sandle