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4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

In light of the current position regarding the new variant of COVID-19 and spread of the virus and the added 'Christmas mixing' over the holiday period, we have a few changes to communicate to you before the return of school and nursery. The latest union advice has also meant that we have reduced staffing capacity in school.

I would like to confirm that we are still opening school for all classes, however the provision in the nursery will be reduced to only 3-4 year olds and 2 year olds with key worker parents. The reason for this being that 2 year olds require physical contact between themselves and staff and we would like to minimise contact to protect both the staff and children. Mrs Wainwright will be in touch via telephone later today with the parents of the children this affects. For those nursery pupils attending the setting we would like to ask parents to ask their children to come into the setting themselves rather than being handed over physically.

In addition to this we will not be offering before or after school care for at least two weeks. The decision to reinstate clubs will be reviewed thereafter on a weekly basis and will take into account staffing provision and the local and national picture regarding COVID-19.

Curriculum provision will be affected in some areas, for example, there will be no forest school this week and this will be reviewed based on staff availability in school. However, forest school activities will take place in the classroom by the class teacher.

Classes 1 and 2 have no Teaching assistant for the coming week and possibly for some time thereafter, therefore routines will take longer and there will be less curriculum time. TAs working from home will attempt to hear readers on Microsoft Teams wherever practical.

We have done everything possible to maintain as much of our provision as possible in a safe environment within an ever changing climate. The spread and effects of the virus is so very worrying for everyone and continues to worsen as days go by.

Our school offering will be reviewed every Friday in the coming weeks ahead based on infection rates, staffing and local and national guidelines/advice.

Aim high ... because everything is possible!



We are continuing to review our risk assessment and revise our protocols in school and have made several further changes to minimise the spread of the virus in school. I would like to remind you of some of the current procedures we have in place:

- Staff wearing masks/visors
- No communal area for staff
- Parents wearing masks on school grounds
- Social distancing
- One adult to drop off children only
- No unnecessary items to be brought from home
- Temperature checks for children
- Immediate isolation for staff/pupils with symptoms
- Pupils with symptoms must be collected immediately from school and a test taken
- Staff/pupils with coronavirus to self-isolate for 10 days
- Frequent handwashing/hand gel
- Staggered entry and exits and play times

It is vital you let us know immediately via the school office if your child has tested positive for coronavirus or has symptoms. Where a test has been taken and is negative, we would appreciate if the results could be shared with the school via email.

If you have any concerns or wish to contact me at all about the above information, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Ward
Headteacher

