

15th January 2021

January Update – No.1

Dear Families,

School Places

We have gone through all requests for school places made by parents to return their children to school. We are satisfied that we have allocated school places in line with the government's definition of key workers which is very broad. We have a maximum number of places that we can offer in school to achieve the necessary social distancing and reduce the risk of infection, and have reached that allocation in most classes.

The number of places offered to children will not increase and we will continue to go through any further requests under the government guidance individually, however for key workers, where there is one parent who is at home, we would advise that your child/ren stays at home. We cannot accommodate all requests.

The purpose of the national lockdown is to control the virus and save lives, therefore there is a need for the majority of families to stay at home. For those of you still coming to school please continue to wear a facemask on the school site, adhere to social distancing guidance, and come at the right time for your class bubble. School staff are not immune from the infection and are working hard to ensure that children in school and at home have the same educational offer.

I am sure you all appreciate the challenges we have faced and will recognise that we are doing the best we can to arrange the safest environment for your children whilst providing high quality provision for those children working at home.

Home Learning

I thought it might be useful to update you all regarding our home learning offer. We understand that our families are all very different; some of you are working from home and therefore will only be able to access home learning later in the day. We have also had some requests for paper-based resources. I am sure you will appreciate it is difficult to provide for every requirement. We are committed to providing remote learning that is inclusive whilst satisfying the demands on us placed by the Department of Education. It is an expectation that all children from Year 1 complete 3-4 hours of remote learning dependent on age.

All children whether working remotely at home are receiving the same offer as the children in school.

Class Dojo

We are using this platform to communicate the daily learning.

Teachers in Nursery and Reception classes will post the weekly learning on Class Dojo on Monday morning. Teachers are available throughout the day to respond to messages and may post good examples of work produced by the children working in school or by those at home on the platform.



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Teachers from Year 1 upwards will post their learning daily on the Dojo Class story or via the Dojo messages facility. Teachers are available throughout the day to respond to messages and may post good examples of work produced by the children working in school or by those at home on the platform.

Children will also receive feedback on the work they are submitting. This again may be done via Dojo Class Story or Dojo messages.

In school, we know that high quality learning is not all computer based. We have placed exercise books and appropriate support material in the school foyer for all children to collect. We expect all children to take pride in these books and resources as they would with their school exercise books. Children will be expected to complete work when appropriate in their exercise book and bring them back to school when it is safe for all to return. As a last resort and only when resources cannot be accessed online will paper packs be produced that can be collected from school.

Communication / Support

Staff are available to respond to messages posted on Dojo messages throughout the day. You can also request a call by ringing the school office on 0161 921 2850. Staff will be making weekly calls to those of you at home to check in and see how your children are getting on with the home learning. Teachers will post additional information regarding when you might expect a call on Class Dojo. Please be aware that the school number may show as unrecognised on your phones.

Mr Thorpe continues to be available to support in school and should you have any questions or need further support we will do our very best to help.

Income based free School Meals

During the National Lockdown, we will continue to support children eligible for benefit-related free school meals who are at home and do not have a school place during this lockdown.

We will be using the Department for Education national voucher scheme. This will reopen next week. Please continue to look for further information regarding this, which will be emailed out.

We will continue to keep you updated and thank you for your continued support.



R.L.Munro
Head Teacher

