

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the announcement by the Government during the evening of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, we are now in a national lockdown and all schools will be closed from Tuesday 5 January until at least February half term.

We have now finalised arrangements and will move to remote learning whilst remaining open for key worker / vulnerable children.

**We will be open for key worker children and vulnerable learners only.** Any families who think they qualify for key worker places should contact us and we will confirm places as soon as possible.

We will be updating parents via the website and text messages / emails, as and when we have more information to share with you.

Our school staff and pastoral team will be in touch with parents and carers regularly to ensure that you receive any potential support you may require.

### **Prioritising placements for vulnerable children**

We will utilise our own internal systems such as risk registers/assessments to determine those pupils classed as *most vulnerable*; these children will be allocated a space as a matter of priority.

### **Home learning**

We are committed to ensuring that we continue to support you and your child in their education within the home setting. Our pupils access learning in a variety of ways and we will endeavour to provide sufficient opportunities and resources that are inclusive for all during this period of absence. It is crucial that you inform us of any challenges around home learning and we will ensure prompt support and resolution. We have already provided remote learning for all our pupils and will continue to improve that provision. Therefore, please continue to access the Home Learning page, as we will continue to update it with learning resources over the coming weeks.

### **Further important information**

We are unable to eliminate the risk of transmission within our school although we can all play our part in reducing the risk. ***By accepting an allocated space, you are deemed to agree to the following points:***

- Expectations on learning and pupil progress in school will be impacted by the current situation
- Staffing ratios may be further reduced due to the impact of COVID and this may result in the withdrawal of any placement, **without prior notice**

- If you are required to attend onsite, you will keep a minimum of two metres away from any other person and always wear a mask (unless exempt due to medical reasons)
- You will inform school, as usual, if your child is unable to attend school for any reason
- Whilst all necessary precautions will be taken by the school, we cannot ensure social distancing due to the needs of our children. You accept that your child may be in close proximity with other children and/or staff members
- The school cannot guarantee a virus-free school
- You will ensure that your child wears clean clothes every day to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus
- You will not send your child into school with any unnecessary items such as toys etc.
- You will not bring your child on to school premises if they have any symptoms of coronavirus or if anyone in the household has symptoms
- You understand that government advice for pupils is to stay at home; this is particularly important for those pupils with underlying health conditions. Placing them in a school setting potentially places them at increased risk of contracting the virus
- If your child requires medication, you will ensure all necessary protocol is followed. You must ensure that medication is clearly labelled and in date and all necessary paperwork completed prior to arrival
- You understand that if your child becomes unwell during their time in school, they will be immediately isolated (in accordance with government guidelines) and you will be contacted to collect them immediately. If you are unable to collect your child, you must have organised an alternative person to collect your child on your behalf. You will not expect staff to justify or prove the rationale behind this decision

This was not the start to 2021 that we were all looking forward to and sadly wishing everyone a Happy New Year seems rather redundant at this time. We will be open throughout this lockdown and will be available to try to help and support all our families during this time. Please do contact school if you are experiencing any difficulties at home.

Take care and look after yourselves and we look forward to seeing you all again once we get to the other side of this.

Kind regards,

*A. Davis*

Mrs A. Davis

Head Teacher

Thrive Education Partnership

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