



# Lavant

## C.E. Primary School

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4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Despite the very unsettling times we continue to experience, I do wish you all a very Happy New year and hope you had a lovely Christmas despite the restrictions that were in place. Thank you, as always, for your very generous gifts at the end of last term.

We were delighted to welcome back the majority of children today and to be able to kick-start the spring term together. Your children have been on top form today and no time was wasted in launching into new exciting learning journeys; the teachers are really enthusiastic about the rich learning opportunities that they have planned for the term ahead.

You will be aware that a number of local schools have not started back today, but we remain committed to remaining open to pupils whilst we are permitted to, in as safe a way as possible. We are however a number of staff down this week, and if more adults are required to stay at home, we will sadly have to take the necessary steps of closing classes, or even the whole school. At all times, in any decisions we take, the safety and wellbeing of your children will take the highest priority. If we do have to close any part of the school, we will give you as much notice as possible but please be aware, this is a rapidly changing situation and directives from government could change at any moment.

If further school closures are announced, we will revert to our online learning as provided at the start of the pandemic. The likelihood is that whatever the circumstances, we will remain open for children of 'critical workers'. If you believe you may qualify for this provision, please email the school office informing us of both parents line of work, and if such an occasion arises, you intend for your child to continue coming into school. Early notification of numbers is vital to enable us to plan quality provision for those children in school.

I fully understand the concerns that many have regarding schools being open and appreciate that a small number of you felt unable to send your child to school today. I need to inform you however that I have been instructed by the Local Authority to only authorise absences for children who are ill or who have to self-isolate due to a member of the household awaiting or in receipt of a positive COVID test. As we continue with our full provision in school, online learning will only be provided for children who are required to self-isolate.

At Lavant, we continue to strive for the very best for every one of our children, whilst ensuring we are doing all we can to ensure the safety of our whole school community.

I will do my best to ensure I keep you informed at all times, but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you, as always, for your overwhelming support,

Stay safe,

Adrian King