



Monday 4 January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Can I begin by apologising for the short notice you received that the school was not going to re-open today. Sadly, we had no alternative but to do so, and it was a decision the Governors reached in consultation with the school leaders yesterday.

Until the vaccinations are rolled out across the population, we fear that the deep sense of frustration that we all feel is only going to intensify. The Governors are well-aware of the effects of school closure on families. It is stressful for all concerned, parents and staff alike. Although volunteers, the Governors have a legal responsibility to ensure that the school functions well, and I can assure you that we are totally committed to this purpose. No school leader in the UK would willingly close a school: not one Governing Board would sanction a school closing unless there were exceptional circumstances.

The reasons for the closure are inextricably linked to the decision to re-open primary schools, and you are no doubt aware of the debate raging. The decision to re-open primary schools has been challenged by a number of organisations leaving school leaders caught between a rock and a hard place as they wrestle with the issue of staff shortages.

In the short term, be assured that the staff will be working hard to ensure that remote learning is set up to be effective, challenging, achievable and accessible to everyone.

On behalf of the Governing Board, can I thank you for your support. These are demanding times for families and we need to work closely together for the benefit of the children. Showing solidarity will help your child understand that we are working as a team to secure their future.

Best wishes

Clive Burgess MBE  
Chair of Governors