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Tuesday, 26th January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

**Re: Mid-January update**

As we begin our fourth week of the new year, I wanted to provide you with an update of where we are as a school and what we regard as our top priorities in the current circumstances. Lockdown 3 is, as we are all discovering, different to the first lockdown. Today, for example, saw the introduction of staff testing for Covid, using the lateral flow tests. Having administered my very own test, earlier today, I want to thank all the staff for their commitment to taking this unpleasant test twice weekly!

Another big difference is the number of children who have returned to school. Whilst it is vitally important that we follow the guidance from the Department for Education, I would also like to remind parents that when possible, please do consider keeping your children at home when you can. We are confident there are strict Covid safety measures in place around the school but you will appreciate that the increased number of children does ultimately increase risk. Furthermore, increased children in school does add a logistical challenge of educating two sets of children, those at home and those at school.

Although, I am confident we are providing a high level of education to these two groups, we will continue to review the curriculum that is being delivered and how it is being delivered to thread that path of providing enough work for children without a sense of overwhelming families. It is clear that being at home, with your children, juggling your

own work while also acting as a teacher is not easy and we thank you for doing what you can. The last thing we want to do as a school is to add further pressure.

Safeguarding continues to be as important as ever and we are working hard to ensure all children are in contact with the school daily. Please do let us know if your child is unable to engage with the remote learning, otherwise we will be in touch by phone and if we still are unable to get in touch, you may well receive a visit from a member of staff just to check everything is ok.

Looking ahead to the future, I can honestly say that we are as informed as each other. When I do hear any news from the Department for Education, I will be sure to inform you as quickly as I can.

As ever, if you do have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

In the meantime, I wish you and your family all the very best.



Jo Hannon  
Senior Leadership Team  
English Lead