



## School operation in Lockdown 3 – Spring Term 2021

6<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this finds you all well. As you can imagine, there are a few things that I need to share with you so apologies for the long message but please do take the time to read it and get in touch if there is anything that is not clear, you need more information about or you want to ask. Someone is in the office everyday so feel free to phone on the normal school number.

You should have received some information from class teachers yesterday about what to expect from home learning. We have been asked to provide three hours per day on average from a variety of subjects and I have explained to the teachers that I will be tracking the work to make sure all the children are engaged and doing what they should be. Support staff have been given access to Seesaw to help me with this and will be commenting on work and will also post some messages to see how individual children are doing. Please do let us know if you need any support with accessing the work or motivating your children and keeping them on track.

We have a small number of children and staff in school every week day and would like to offer the chance to collect any resources you may need: exercise books, stationary, reading books, library books, iPad loans etc. We would also love to see the children in person and collect any hard copies of completed work. We may be able to let the children have a play/skate/scoot in the playground too. We ask that you agree any visit with class teachers or the school office beforehand and help us ensure social distancing and good hygiene.

The school field is also available for children in the school (or their older siblings) to play on as long as they are supervised by an adult, adhering to guidance about meeting with other households and keep their distance from staff and children in school who may be present.

We will not be offering weekly care packages like we did during the last lockdown. I was disappointed with the quality and price. We thought the chance to touch base with families regularly was useful but hopefully the above offer of regular visits will work instead. We will use the Wonde voucher scheme - as we did over Christmas - so if you are eligible, please look out for the emails over the next few days. If your income and/or circumstances have changed recently and you think you may be eligible then please get in touch and we'll point you towards the online application process.



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I did not know anything about school closures (except for guess work) until the Prime Minister announced it on Tuesday evening and I was dismayed that we were asked to open the school for one day and then close it the next. We know many of you will have thought long and hard about whether to send your children to school on Monday to then watch Monday's announcement I imagine would have been frustrating for you.

The staff were in school yesterday making plans and getting organised for home learning and our educare provision and we agreed that, despite the Department for Education's apparent disregard for common sense and the emotional health of the school community, we were all pleased that most of the children got to have a nice day with their friends and the atmosphere in school was delightful. We just hope that it doesn't add to the spread of Covid.

We are really hoping to be able to reopen the school to everyone as soon and as normally as possible and, to this end, we all really want to do the right thing and know you'll share our desire to play our part in bringing Covid cases down locally.

The staff have a few plans for some fun things we can offer to maintain some direct contact and a sense of community over the coming weeks but didn't want to bombard you straight away, so watch this space.

Please do get in touch if you think we can help in anyway. We're look forward to seeing what wonderful things you and your families are getting up to and I hope to get my video editing skills back up to speed so I can share some of the work with you.

My thoughts are with you all.

Chris Roynon



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