

Dear Parents

Well here we are again - back in school and the hubbub has returned, which is as lovely as ever. Most children have returned but we do have a few children off school today for various reasons, which are not difficult to understand. I appreciate that all of you, along with our own staff, struggled to make a decision about returning to school yesterday. It was not an easy day for any of us. Whatever is right for you is alright with us - certainly for the time being. More of the staff are choosing to wear masks or visors around school now, and I have to say that none of the children has batted an eyelid. How times change.

I am keeping an eye on the news today and can't be sure what the Government's next decision will be. In the last few minutes a national lockdown has been announced in Scotland. Therefore in case schools in England should close again, I would like to be fully prepared to ensure we can accommodate children of critical workers and vulnerable children. The criteria which you need to refer to in order to find out if you qualify for this can be found by Googling: **Critical Workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings**. This has changed since the last lockdown so do please look at it again.

If you are a critical worker please fill in the form attached and return it to school, to the admin office address. If your child is vulnerable please complete the alternate form, also attached. I wanted to point you at the Gov.Uk guidance on '**Making a childcare bubble with another household**' as this is an alternative to sending your child into school which was not available in the previous lockdown. If we do end up with another lockdown I would like to ask all of you to only use **school** provision when you have **no other** alternative so that we can ensure as few people as possible are in school. If a parent is at home, in most cases, children should be at home too.

I know a text has already been sent out, but we really need you to wrap your children up warm in school at the moment. Some of them are quite happy in their T shirts alone, but those who feel the cold need an extra layer please. We do need to keep classrooms ventilated and in the winter this is much trickier to do so without also making it cold.

Many thanks as always,

Jacky