



Waverton Community Primary School

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Learning together. Achieving together.

8th January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are all well after what seems to have been a very long week. I think we all knew that January was going to bring us extra challenges and so it has proved.

At the moment school is running with between 25-30% of pupils, across 7 class bubbles, with the teaching assistants supporting the critical worker/vulnerable children while teachers are dealing with the remote learning – both within the classroom. Almost all staff are still attending school. The Before and After School Club is also opening on Monday.

Whilst we are expected to take vulnerable children and children of critical workers, even if it is just one parent who qualifies, the latest guidance published by the DFE yesterday says “*Parents or carers who are critical workers should still keep children at home if they can.*” **Given the high levels of the new variant within the community, which is continuing to rise, I ask parents to please take note of this and not send the children in unless it is absolutely necessary, even if you have places booked.** The guidance is also quite categorical that, at this moment in time, ***we cannot invite any other children to school, even if the school believes it can accommodate them safely.*** I hope this position will change in time as I know how important social contact with their peers is for all children.

Thank you for the many positive and constructive comments, both around the school closures and the remote learning that has started this week. Everyone has worked very hard to get things up and running. This has been a pretty steep learning curve for everyone – staff, pupils and parents. Things will evolve in time and issues that crop up will be ironed out. If you are experiencing technical or connectivity issues please contact school via admin office email admin@waverton.cheshire.sch.uk and we will try and get them resolved. We will also contact you if your child is not engaging in the remote learning. Our Remote Learning Plan and other useful documents are attached to this email. I have to say I was very impressed at how professional and organised your children were whenever I saw them on line this week.

Having seen a mild scattering of snow this morning, should school need to close at short notice a message will be sent out via email, our twitter account and posted on the school website as early as possible before school starts in the morning. Thankfully it wasn't necessary to close twice in one week!

Personally speaking it has been very difficult to see the school shut down again for the second time within a year and I'm so sorry for the impact it is having on your children and families. We will continue to do all we can to support you and them through the next few weeks when hopefully we will get a better indication about when and how we can re-open.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

SJ Talbot

Mr S Talbot

Head Teacher