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Headteacher: Mrs L C Crossland BSc Hons QTS / NPQH



*Dream, Believe, Achieve.
'Nothing will be impossible with God'*

Monday 17th January 2021

RE: School closure

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, I must apologise for the number of letters sent to parents over the last week. It's been practically a daily event, but I thought you might appreciate the updated information given the rapid rate of infection and subsequent impact on school life.

Having closely monitored the rising number of Covid infections over the last week, in both staff and pupils, a dramatic increase on a daily basis became evident. Further infections in staff were then reported over the weekend and as late as this morning, which meant that previous plans made were no longer possible. Unfortunately, having explored every other option for cover, we were left with no alternative but to close to pupils today and convert to remote learning. Decisions were made using the school's Covid Risk Assessment and the low staffing levels meant that the school could not meet the requirements for enhanced cleaning, nor the safe and appropriate levels of staffing to teach whole classes, for pupils requiring 1:1 support or adequate cover for lunchtime.

Today we have been able to complete a deep clean and secure supply staff in preparation for our return to school. Should we have the expected level of staffing available to us tomorrow, we fully expect to be open. However, I do recommend that parents have a 'back up' plan in place, as there is always the possibility that further infections amongst staff could be reported tomorrow.

We will continue to monitor the situation and reiterate information given in previous letters, regarding the support we require from parents to help manage this situation together. Please keep testing on a daily basis and report cases to the class teacher as soon as you are aware. This will help us manage the outbreak in the best way possible. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support during this outbreak and we look forward to a return to a more normal way of working as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, the school office or myself, if you have any further questions or comments.

Kind regards,

L.C. Crossland

Lisa Crossland
Head Teacher