



13th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Key Stage 1 Closure – Thank-you & Update

Thank-you for your support this morning as we managed the closure of Years 1 and 2 so close to the start of the school day. The purpose of this letter is to share with you the bigger picture concerning the reasons for closure and what you might expect of the coming days.

It is with very heavy hearts that following discussions with the Department for Education we have had to take the decision to close the setting and sadly **advise that all children and adults who have been in the setting on Friday and Monday need to self isolate for 10 days – this will see the setting re-opening on Friday 23rd July.**

While this is such unfortunate news we are grateful to the family of Lucy Hewitt, who having had contact with a family member a week previous to hearing they had been diagnosed with COVID, undertook precautionary PCR tests which identified a symptom-less Lucy as positive. Their contact with school throughout the process, including early this morning has enabled us to ensure that we have followed guidance provided to schools at every stage.

We attach a letter that we have been advised to share with you outlining the position formally – please give this your attention.

What next?

In order to keep everyone safe all children and adults who have been present in Years 1 and 2 on Friday and Monday will now need to self-isolate. **Family members do not need to self-isolate unless they begin to display symptoms or undertake a test and receive a positive COVID diagnosis.**

Our Key Stage 1 team will be in touch with you by phone or via Google Classroom – they are keen that your child and family receives the best possible support during this period in a way that suits you. They will be passing on lots of ideas and opportunities, including arrangements for live remote contact very soon. Should you have any concerns about this please contact the school on 01626 203040 and we will ensure that someone from the team contacts you as a priority.

Those children who qualify for free school lunches are entitled to continue to have these provided – our office team have been in touch with families and made arrangements concerning this. If you have any concerns or queries regarding this, again please get in touch.

Siblings

Siblings of children in Years 1 and 2 should continue to attend school. It will be important to them that much consistency and normality is maintained. Their learning and play in school will be unaffected. **Should siblings display any symptoms please contact us immediately.** Current arrangements see PCR ('Lab') tests being made available to anyone upon request – please access these if you have any concerns.

Guidance states that self-isolating children are not allowed to come on to the school site at any time. We recognise that this may cause difficulties around the drop-off and collection of siblings. If you are unable to manage these difficulties please contact us on the usual number and we will seek to help with this.

Moving Forward

The last few weeks have seen us feel fortunate to have avoided any closures, while schools around us have been impacted. While we share your sense of disappointment that the children in Key Stage 1 cannot complete the run up to the end of the year in the way we would wish, we will be working hard to make this period as positive as possible. Please get in touch should there be anything that we can do to help – we always try to make your contact with us worth your while.

In the meantime we look forward to having the children back together on Friday 23rd July.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Hampton
Co- Head Teacher

Katy Galling
Co-Head Teacher

Niema Bohrayba
Chair of Governors