



Established in 1974

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you following the first month of the National Lockdown to keep you up to date regarding the situation in school.

All teachers and support staff are working in school full time, although we have already experienced staff absence due to Covid 19 and the usual illnesses that the winter brings.

We do have members of staff absent. The work of these missing staff members is being covered by the teachers and teaching assistants who are in school, alongside their own responsibilities.

Teachers and teaching assistants are preparing, setting work and providing feedback where possible for children at home, as well as teaching their classes in school. This will now include video and live lessons (for Mathematics initially then English) which take a significant amount of time to prepare and produce.

In school, the class sizes vary by year group but in some cases are over twenty children. Daily we have had between 99 and 103 children in school.

I realise that this lockdown is very different to the last one, with many more businesses and services continuing. Home schooling your child or children can be a difficult experience, but teachers aim to provide as much guidance as possible for the work they are setting. If stress levels are high it would be better to just focus on what you can do together, perhaps the key aspects of English and Maths, rather than causing significant disruption in the home.

I appreciate how difficult home schooling is, with children all vying for help and resources, all whilst trying to do your own job! I would however request that even though you may be a key worker and your child is entitled to a place in school, if there is an adult at home, wherever possible please do not send your child in to school. This is principally to reduce the spread of the virus and protect the children and staff who are in school. The safety of staff and children is always the highest priority; greater than learning. If school is

impacted by more staff sickness or greater numbers of children in attendance then this may impact on the level of remote learning.

Please rest assured that all staff are working tremendously hard to provide the safest and best learning opportunities for the children at home and in school.

Kind Regards

B.Rostron

Chair of Governors