



Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **School capacity and pupil eligibility**

Firstly, I hope that everyone is ok and managing to work through this latest lockdown, in the best way that they can. Please remember, that if you are experiencing difficulties at home, there is always a member of staff available in school to talk to.

I would like to recognise the fantastic effort that our families have made in supporting their children, either getting them into school regularly and on time, or engaging in online learning at home. Who imagined we would all become experts in using Microsoft Teams! Thank you for the positive feedback I have received about the quality of provision and support that our class teachers have offered, this time around. We have worked hard to upskill our staff and purchase additional resources so that we would be prepared. We still have a number of devices available in school, which I would rather see in homes, put to good use. So, if your child is struggling to access online learning or sharing a device with a sibling, please contact the school office to arrange a loan.

I appreciate there have been mixed messages about who should be in school and who should stay at home, in the media. To clarify, we have risk assessed our school, based on our number of classrooms and available staff. All staff are in school every day, to provide quality face to face teaching, while delivering online learning to pupils at home. To maintain social distancing in the classroom and ensure both pupils and staff are safe, our maximum capacity is 10 pupils per classroom (8 in each reception class).

A number of our groups are now full, providing places for the children of critical workers and those deemed vulnerable. Therefore, please can I check with all critical workers that a place is still needed in school. A reminder that the latest guidance from the DfE states, that parents who are critical workers may have a place in school if "they can't keep their child at home" and that "parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can". With hospital admissions and deaths from Covid-19 soaring, the message from England's chief medical officer is now, more than ever, "stay home, protect the NHS and save lives".

Therefore, if your child can access their learning remotely from home, we would be grateful if you could inform the school office. This will ensure that we can continue to offer our limited places to those pupils who need them most.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Jones'.

J A Jones  
**HEADTEACHER**