



Flockton C of E (C) First School

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Head Teacher: Emmaline Bulmer

Sunday 3rd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year.

I am writing to you to confirm we will be opening school tomorrow, Monday 4th January 2021 as planned. The advice from Kirklees remains the same as it was before Christmas, which is that schools are safe to open.

Some members of staff are receiving advice from their unions urging them to agree to provide online teaching and face to face for vulnerable and key worker pupils only. It is a matter for each individual member of staff to consider whether they will follow their union advice.

The Governing Body and I are fully supportive of whatever decision staff take and accept that any member of staff not returning fully has not taken the decision lightly. Currently we have enough staff returning to work to open the school fully tomorrow morning.

I am aware that the new variant of COVID-19 has been reported as more contagious than the original infection and hopefully by working together we can keep this virus out of school. We will continue to follow Government and LA guidance on hygiene and continue with additional cleaning throughout the day.

There are a few things we would like to ask parents to work with us on:

- **To keep staff safe, please could we ask parents to wear a mask when either you wish to talk to a teacher or are collecting children from the main entrance during the day or, from After School Club. Also, please ensure you are social distancing when dropping pupils off in the morning and collecting at the end of the day.**
- **One parent pick up and drop off.**
- **Please keep to timings at the start and end of the day.**

If your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19, please do not send them to school. If anything err on the side of caution. In the past, the virus has presented itself as a slight temperature before seeming like a cold. And so to keep all pupils, staff and families safe, please consider testing your child before they return to school. With all classic COVID-19 symptoms, school will require you to have a negative test result before children return to school. The symptoms are as follows:

- **A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).**
- **A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).**
- **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.**

In addition, can I just remind parents that following Government guidance, we have the windows open in school, and if your child wishes to wear an additional layer of clothing i.e. hoodie, fleece, etc. that is more than welcome; it can get a little cold.

We look forward to seeing you at your allocated drop off times in the morning.

Stay safe.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Emmaline Bulmer
Head Teacher