

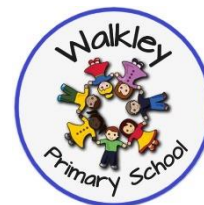
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'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'

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Deputy Headteacher: Chris Wallis

Chair of the Governing Body: Andy Wilcock

6/1/21

Coronavirus Update: Wednesday 6th January

Key worker/vulnerable children: Nursery and Remote Learning

Dear Parents / Carers

As a Headteacher, what you are about to read is breaking my heart and I can speak for all the staff as this is not the Walkley Primary School that we want it to be, but we will do our utmost to keep the essence of Walkley and of course it is not the start for the new Walkley school that we have worked so hard to achieve.

Once again, we find ourselves in the position of National Lockdown impacting upon our children and families. **We are all asked to play our part to drive down the transmission of this virus which is more virulent than it has ever been.** All the staff are also keyworkers trying to find childcare solutions, so we are very aware how stressful a process this is. As we are in a new building our organization will still be efficient but will run differently than in March 2020 when we were in Burnaby and Tennyson.

Planning and organizing the return of keyworker / vulnerable families to school week commencing Monday 11th Jan

You have already received an email yesterday, Tuesday 5th January, asking you to indicate whether you would like to access a place for your child either in a keyworker or vulnerable role. **If there is an adult in your family that is working from home you should not apply for / accept a school offer for a place on these days.** It is imperative that the number of children on site is kept to a minimum, so if you have alternatives **you should use these as a priority.** This email also asked for proof of identity as a keyworker and then for you to indicate the days when you wanted your child to attend if you do not have alternative provision. **The message from the Government is to stay at home.**

The Google document is the only way that the school will process the information, with the deadline being 9 a.m. tomorrow morning. Please do not request places via enquiries

This information is presently being processed as it influences the number of bubbles needed, the number of staff required and the number of staff utilized for remote learning. **You will hear from as soon as this information is collated.** If after reading this letter you need to amend your previous survey, please complete another survey here:

[Survey for Critical Workers and vulnerable pupil status](#) and we will amend our records. The cut off time is still 9.a.m tomorrow morning (Thursday 7th Jan).

We will keep cohorts together for effective teaching purposes.

- Ensure that children and young people are in the same small groups at all times each day, and different groups are not mixed during the day, or on subsequent days.
- Ensure that the same teacher(s) and other staff are assigned to each group and, as far as possible, these stay the same during the week.
- Twins are the only siblings that will be in the same cohort group. Siblings in different year groups will be taught an age appropriate curriculum with their peers.
- Ensure that wherever possible children and young people use the same classroom or area of a setting throughout the day, with a thorough cleaning of the rooms at the end of the day.

Nursery

Nursery will be open as usual. If parents still want their child (ren) to come to Nursery, pupils are to attend at their usual times. Please notify the school if you wish to continue to attend Nursery via enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk so that we can provide staff accordingly.

Remote Learning

We will be providing more information about our remote learning options later this week. It is important to note that the Government have provided us with **6 iPads in total** to support remote learning. The other 32 that were promised have now been directed to secondary schools without our consent.

We know that this does not answer all your questions at the moment, but more information regarding staggered drop off and pick up times, class bases and staffing, and all our new rules and regulations will be sent to you as soon as we have further clarity. Thank you again for your patience. Stay safe and well.

Val Sian and the Walkley Team.