

Walkley Primary School
Burnaby Crescent
Sheffield S6 2RZ

Tel: 0114 2340550

Fax: 0114 2310553

Email: enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.walkley.sheffield.sch.uk>

Headteacher: Val Sian

Deputy Headteacher: Chris Wallis

Chair of the Governing Body: Andy Wilcock



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

Friday 20th March 2020

Coronavirus update – Friday 20th March 2020

COVID-19 Update

Many thanks for all your kind words of support and appreciation and also for your patience and understanding. We are continuously making decisions to tackle daily challenges, but knowing that we have such amazing support from parents, carers and families is of great comfort. We will do all we can to support our families and community during this difficult time. We have three main updates to share today.

Refunds

As the closure impacts upon the school and community, we have had some cancelled activities, events and purchases that will need to result in refunds to parents and carers. Admin staff are working hard to progress these but are under an immense amount of pressure because of ongoing staff absence and the national developments. We will issue refunds as soon as we can, dependent on external agencies responses and insurance claims. Apologies for the delay.

Places at school for children of key workers/vulnerable children

As you will be aware from the information that was shared on Wednesday night, only vulnerable children and the children of key workers will be in schools during this period of closure, beginning on Monday 23rd March. We have now received the list of key workers which is reproduced in the accompanying attachment, which was published by the government at midnight. The guidance states that:

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined (in the attachment). Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.*
- 2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.*
- 3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.*
- 4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.*

Thank you to all families who have already emailed us or replied using the slip to make us aware of their jobs. We have now been told that we need to gather additional information from you, however, and so please make contact with us today, Friday 20th March, if you believe you are a key worker even if you have already done so. We need you to email the information below to enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk as soon as you can.



1. What is the occupation of both parents of your child?
2. Do you have any access to other childcare in your household (you may be a key worker but others in the household may not be)?
3. Do you require childcare during the Easter holiday, if so on which days?

We apologise if you have children with siblings at other schools as you will receive this information request, which is made on behalf of Sheffield Local Authority, multiple times. It is important that you respond to each school as the information is being requested as part of a city wide COVID-19 response.

We are very sorry that we are only able to provide places for children of key workers named on the list in the attachment. Please also note that places are subsequent to the agreement of parents to support the school in the application of the Behaviour Policy.

For key workers, it would help us to indicate the number of days care you require on a weekly basis when possible. Additionally, please note that we intend to continue with Breakfast club for children of key workers from 8am daily.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours Faithfully
Walkley Primary School Safeguarding Team