TEMPLE *Grafton* C *of* E Primary School
Together we shine
1874

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Monday, 4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to wish you all a happy new year. I hope that you have all enjoyed a relaxed and peaceful Christmas with as few disruptions to your plans as possible during these difficult days.

The government have reiterated their intent that Primary Schools will reopen apart from those in the most badly affected areas. Unless this changes, the school will reopen tomorrow, Tuesday 5th January. The most recent data shows that infection rates in our area are below the national average and all the staff will continue to do all they can to ensure your children are as safe as they can be. Arrangements for drop-off and pick-up will continue the same as for the autumn term and classes will remain in their bubbles. I would ask that all adults should continue to wear a mask, maintain their distance from one another and move away from the school site as quickly as possible. Please convey messages via email, to the admin account, rather than across the fence.

In school we will be reminding our children of the expectations to maintain distance from one another - and especially adults - and the importance of regular handwashing and sanitising. I would appreciate your support with this and ask that you take some time to remind them of this guidance before their return on Tuesday.

As we have seen in the past, the situation could change very rapidly and we are making plans so that we can respond quickly to the closure of primary schools like we saw in March last year. Should schools close, they would remain open to the children of critical workers. If you qualify as a critical worker, please complete the Google form here by 4pm Tuesday 5th January. More information on what occupations qualify as critical workers can be found below.

Unfortunately, I will not be at school this week to welcome you back as I would like due to the fact that I have contracted the virus and so must isolate until January 9th. One of my sons became ill on December 20th and one by one, we have all succumbed despite our very best efforts throughout a most unusual Christmas for us.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support. We are all working hard to do our very best for our children in what remains an uncertain and worrying time.

I look forward to seeing you all once again, across the school fence, on Monday, 11th January. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at admin3066@welearn365.com.

Best wishes,

Mary Gray

Critical Worker Definition
Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care
This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare
This includes:
- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services
This includes:
- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government
This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:
- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods
This includes those involved in food:
- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors