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Date: 5th January 2021



Education and Families

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to get in touch with you to outline our arrangements for this week. Firstly, I hope that you and your family have had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year. I'm sure you will agree, that the reviewed restrictions have not been the best news to start the new year but want to reassure you that we will do everything we can to support you and your family during these difficult times.

Yesterday the First Minister clarified that in light of the rise in Covid-19 cases nationally, the arrangements previously announced for schools for January have now been changed. All children and young people will return to learning on Monday 11th January 2021 when online learning will be in place until 1st February 2021. There is a possibility that these arrangements could continue on for a longer period, subject to review on 18th January.

School re-opens on Wednesday 6th January for identified families and children of key workers only. This service is only available to children of key workers and vulnerable families. If you are a key worker, you must complete the application form at <https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/key-worker-guidance-january-2021> and send it to keyworkerschools@northlan.gov.uk **If another parent/carers is able to work from home, then your child must stay at home. Key worker support should only be accessed where you have no alternative.**

From Wednesday 6th – Friday 8th January, **provision will be for childcare purposes only.** Depending on the numbers of pupils accessing this provision, it is more than likely that class bubbles will have to be reconfigured and composite classes formed. This may also mean that your child has a different class teacher, to allow staff to plan and deliver for online learning. Once reconfigured, class bubbles will be kept separate throughout the day to minimise pupil contacts and prevent further spread of the virus. **Under no circumstances should any child who has symptoms of Covid-19 or who lives in a household where someone has symptoms, present at school.**

On Wednesday 6th January, our start and finish times will remain the same **but** may be reviewed from Thursday onwards. Children attending school from Wednesday 6th January, should still enter their designated gate and line up as usual. Mrs Bruce, Mrs Mitchell and I, will be in the playground to assist. School Breakfast Club and lunch provision will operate as normal on Wednesday 6th January as will school transport but transport will be reviewed next week.

We will be in touch with you again with more information about our online learning provision starting on 11th January. I would also like to emphasise that all of our plans are subject to change and I will keep you up to date with any changes we have to make in light of evolving guidance.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any further information or support. Stay safe.

Kind regards,

Mr Daniel Murray
Head Teacher

