

Headteacher's Blog June (2) 2020

Update

Thank you for getting back to us to confirm if you needed a place for your child/children. Priority has been given in the following order: key/critical worker families; vulnerable pupils; Nursery; Reception; Year 1; then Y6.

We had several requests by Friday, as requested, and have welcomed back more critical worker's children and Year 6 pupils, in line with the Government guidelines.

I can now confirm that places in both of our 'bubbles' are now to the capacity identified in our risk assessment. If there is a change in Government advice, such as to the 2m rule, we may be able to increase capacity, depending on staffing and guidance about 'bubbles' sharing toilet facilities. I will keep you informed of changes as they arise.

Working Online

The weekly work that each class is given online, is the same key work that the pupils who are able to attend are doing in school. It is important that we offer fair access. Although we cannot currently offer wider face-to-face teaching, we hope that you realise we are very happy to offer support by Messenger, phone or e-mail, if you need further guidance, or just a chat.

I hugely appreciate how challenging it can be to motivate pupils with home learning. As a Teacher, and a Mum of 3, now grown-up boys, I know motivation varies between individuals; depending on the time of day; what the subject is; what they would rather be doing, hormones etc. etc. I never found the 'Holy Grail' of success, but some things I always try to remind myself is: we all need to feel successful, so small, achievable goals are best; most people don't like being told what to do, so when we have a choice we all feel better and in some control; so saying you can do either A or B first (when you are happy with either) increases motivation; we all love a reward, even if that's just a break of doing nothing; we also need reminding that everyone is finding the current situation hard. In school, we too are having to adapt plans and timetables, depending on what each day brings and being mindful of everyone's wellbeing. You're all doing a great job!

There are links from our website to guidance on keeping children safe online. Unfortunately, due to the insecurity of Zoom, we are unable to offer this to our KS2 pupils directly from School.

Thank you for your patience, support and amazing home-schooling during this challenging time.

Diane Lakey