



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dunnington

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[www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk](http://www.dunningtonprimary.co.uk)

*Headteacher: Caroline Hancy*

[head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk)

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

### Provision for Vulnerable and Critical Worker Children

Thank you to those parents/carers who have managed, in collaboration with their employers, to reduce the amount of time their children need to spend in school.

Our numbers have reduced slightly and this week have ranged from 28%-35% of pupils. We appreciate how challenging this lockdown is for all parents, as they balance work commitments with the increased expectations around home- schooling. Our hope is that, if we all play our part to reduce transmissions (by staying at home wherever possible), infection rates will fall and we can arrive at a point where we feel safe to welcome **all children** back to school sooner.

### Staff Well-Being

As I'm sure you can appreciate the vast majority of staff are currently required to be in school, as usual, to ensure that we have adequate supervision and separation of on-site bubbles at all times. Many are also balancing these on-site commitments with the provision of remote education for those pupils who remain at home and their own family's circumstances too. Unfortunately we don't have the resources to be able to separate these roles entirely. We are trying to provide slots of time for teachers in school to record videos and check in with remote learners, where possible, but much of this work needs to be done at the end of the school day. It is important that we try to protect our staff and ensure they manage some relaxation time during these challenging times.

The children in school are accessing, where possible, the same pre-prepared teaching videos that the children at home are viewing to avoid duplication of work for staff. A couple of parents have raised the question of live streaming lessons. This is not straight forward and there are some logistical challenges to overcome. However, this morning we trialled our first Google Meet in Y6. This will inform how we might develop some live interactions safely, and within data protection permissions, in the future.



South York  
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We are trying to make the remote learning as straightforward to follow as possible whilst also offering flexibility so that parents can organise each day to fit in with their other commitments and device availability.

We appreciate that every household will have their own particular challenges and it will be difficult to offer a solution that completely suits everyone- we can only try to do our best in these challenging circumstances.

### Emails

Please could I ask parents to try, wherever possible, to send emails to teachers during our usual working hours (Monday- Friday 8am-5pm)?

During the school day, staff can only check their email when they are not teaching. Outside of the school day, staff are free to check and read their email at any time, to suit their preferred working pattern. I would like to encourage staff not to send emails at weekends or between the hours of 5pm and 8am, to ensure a better work-life balance.

If urgent support is needed, please contact the school office (01904 552910) or myself on [head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk).

### Support with Technology and Connectivity

Please get in touch with me if you are experiencing any problems around the sharing devices or internet connectivity. There are a number of potential lines of support that we may be able to access on your behalf.

I've also attached a poster regarding the **York IT Reuse scheme**. This includes information on how you can donate any old devices you may have to help reduce digital exclusion across the city.

I hope you all enjoy a relaxing weekend. Stay safe!

With very best wishes,



Headteacher

