



Dunnington C of E Primary School
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3rd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

May I firstly take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year! I hope you have enjoyed a restful time with your families over the festive period.

As the new term approaches, unfortunately it is surrounded by further uncertainty.

Whilst the Government announced that most primary schools would reopen next week as planned, you will no doubt have been following in the news reports of increasing concerns around the safety of this, given the recent significant rise in Covid 19 cases and the emergence of a more infectious new variant.

Educational trade unions are consulting with their members and the National Education Union (NEU) are advising their members not to teach full classes within a school environment, but provide remote learning instead. Some staff members are also needing to self-isolate and so, at this moment, it is looking unlikely that we will be able to fully reopen our school safely on Tuesday.

I will endeavour to keep you updated as the situation unfolds but, in the meantime, it would be wise to make arrangements for a possible move to remote learning.

In the event that 'onsite education' is temporarily restricted, we will need to prioritise the education of vulnerable children and children of key workers.

To help us prepare for this possibility, all eligible families should complete the attached form https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfaGlx_pnGnY5vBnfiLZZHAnvaGbdAr05Hkl6l8v7Uui7_msg/viewform ideally by 12 noon on Monday 4th January 2021.

Definitions of eligible groups can be found on the following website:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Critical worker provision will generally be limited only to families who are unable to keep their child safely at home. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please contact me by email.

Everybody at Dunnington CE Primary School is keen for all children to be back safely in school as we know this is the best place for their education and well-being. Despite what you may read in some of the media, staff have worked tirelessly throughout this pandemic and they will continue to do so.

I will be in touch again tomorrow with more definite arrangements.

Kind regards,

Caroline Hancy