



Barrow, Broseley, Shropshire, TF12 5BW

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Head Teacher: Mrs. S. Stephenson

School Business Manager: Mrs. A. Pitchford

Chair of Governors: Ms. C. Jones



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good Christmas. I know that restrictions may have interfered with some of your Christmas plans, but I hope that you were able to spend some quality time as a family.

Unfortunately, we find ourselves yet again in a situation of uncertainty, with regards to schools opening. The news is changing constantly, which makes our jobs extremely difficult.

As always, we will communicate with you and keep you posted. Hopefully, this will ease any worry so that you and the children can be prepared.

We currently expect that children will return to school, as planned, tomorrow, Tuesday 5th January. However, this could still change.

- The school will follow the same policies & procedures which were in place prior to the holiday.
- The school's risk assessment has been reviewed and updated.
- The children will remain in class bubbles.
- The same timings, entrances & exits will be used.
- There will be a renewed focus on hand washing & sanitising – continuing to ensure that it is taking place frequently throughout the day.
- We will continue to do extra cleaning of shared areas.
- The school will continue to be well ventilated.
- Children are advised to wear a base layer under their uniform as well as an extra jumper (this can be any jumper which is worn on top of the uniform).
- Some staff members will wear visors and/or face-masks while working with the children.
- Staff members will wear masks while moving around the school.
- As before, we appreciate your support and ask that you take extra caution if any member of your household appears unwell. Please continue to keep your child at home if you are unsure and get them tested.
- We will communicate with you if there are any positive cases in your child's class/bubble.
- The remote learning activities (or hard copies) for those children who are awaiting test results and/or self-isolating will continue as before.
- Extra-curricular activities in bubbles will continue.
- Breakfast Club & after-school care will continue whilst staffing allows it to do so for the children of Key workers.
- Please continue to wear facemasks in and around the school site and keep a safe distance from the staff and each other on the playground and in the car-park.

I thought it best to write with a few last minute 'what ifs' so that we are prepared for all eventualities.

What would happen if the school or my child's class had to close?

- In the event of school closure, we will email all parents/carers.

- This would also be shared via the school website.
- Any updates or communication during the closure would be via the school email.
- Remote learning will begin on the day after closure.
- All children will be provided with remote learning & support, as detailed in the Remote Learning Plan (on the school websites).
- Key worker children will be able to access their work at school if there is nobody at home to supervise them. Where possible, children should stay at home. We need to ensure that we only have those children who do not have any alternative care with us at school so that teachers and support staff can focus on online learning.
- We will also establish if there are any other families who are in need of our support & those children will be invited to join the key worker group.
- The key worker group will do the same learning as those children who are at home.
- We will offer as much support as possible to families who do not have laptops/devices to enable the children to access the home learning. We have a limited number of laptops which we can lend to children where needed.
- Each class will provide a suggested timetable for the day.
- If a child does not access online learning, we will contact you at home.
- The school website will also be used by school to share any updates.
- Assemblies will take place every Friday.
- There will be a blend of set activities, video lessons and live sessions.
- Children will access learning resources and activities on Seesaw or an alternative agreed learning platform such as Zoom for which parents/carers would receive an invitation for their child to participate.
- The office email will continue to be used for all other communication.

Please refer to the Remote Learning Policy and Contingency plan on the school website. We will do our best to keep you informed, as and when any new information arises.

Many of you will be anxious about sending your children into school. Therefore, any absences will be authorised for the children of parents/carers who do not feel confident to send their child/children to school during the next two weeks. In such cases, the pupils would be expected to engage in home learning. If your child will not be in school because of this, please **email the school office** with details of your plans and reasons.

Unfortunately, as COVID rates are very high, we are likely to face some challenges regarding staffing. This may also be a reason behind the closure of a particular class or the school. As always, the mental and physical health and wellbeing of everyone in our school community will be at the forefront of everything that we do. We appreciate all your support.

Please continue to follow the guidelines and we will do everything we can to keep the children safe, happy and enjoying their learning.

With very best wishes,

Sian Stephenson

Headteacher