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Dear parent/carers,

As we begin week six of our half term, we are praying that we continue to keep our Newchurch robins in school and being taught face-to-face by their teachers. For this to happen, we must continue to keep to the procedures we have in place in school and keep to the rules outside of school. We are so grateful to you all for wearing masks when on the school premises and keeping to the time slots for your drop offs and collections.

However, as we become more comfortable in coming to school, it is easy for rules to be relaxed. After our observations last week, please can we ask you to ensure the following procedures are adhered to keep us all safe:

- When waiting by the Reception or Year 6 gate, all children line up and do not run around
- Children should stay with their adults at all times, including when walking out of the school grounds at the end of the day
- Adults need to maintain 2m social distancing at all times – please do not be offended if you are reminded of this
- If children are wearing masks to school (which is not necessary for children under 11 years), they must wear a clean one each day and have a sealable plastic bag when for when they are not using it e.g. at lunchtimes
- Once children have been collected or dropped off, please could you leave the premises as quickly as possible. Over the last week, we have seen a number of parents stopping to chat on the car park which is impacting on the one way system and delays other year groups being allowed to be collected or dropped off

## Assessments

Since the start of the September, once the children had settled in, we embarked on assessing the children's current level of attainment in relation to the end of the previous year expectations. For example, Year 5 were assessed on the end of Year 4 objectives for Reading, Writing and Maths as a means of identifying what the children know and what needs to be covered again to embed the skills, knowledge and understanding in these areas of the curriculum.



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From Y2 upwards, we have used some standardised tests to support us which will allow us to analyse the way the children have answered the questions and to provide us with the next steps for teaching and learning. For some children, particularly in reading, it is developing the techniques to answer comprehension questions.

As expected, there have been varied outcomes for the children based on how they accessed the remote learning during the school closure. We are very much aware of the differing circumstances our families had: size of families, limited devices, parents needing to work etc. and we would like you to be reassured that you did your best. However, for some children who did not access any learning during the school closure, we need to act fast and work together to bridge the gaps in their learning. Hopefully, the parental conferences will give you an insight into what we all can do to support your child.

## Parental Conferences

We are very excited to hold our virtual parental conferences this year, which will provide your child's new teacher with the opportunity to meet with you face to face and discuss your child. We are delighted with how the booking system worked and thank you for embracing this new system.

We just wanted to give you a brief outline of the structure of the meeting. The conference will begin with you receiving an email with a link to join the meeting. Please ensure that you are in a private place for the conference for safeguarding reasons. If you click on the link, it will allow you to see the teacher. If anything should happen that does not allow this to happen, then your child's teacher will ring you to conduct the parental conference.

The focus of the ten minute conference will be:

- To discuss how your child is settling into school life again
- To give you a brief outline with regards to where your child is at in terms of their attainment and what needs to be done to support your child in catching up if it is needed to get them back on track following the school closure
- To discuss engagement in homework and online resources such as TTRockstars and Reading Plus (KS2) and the impact this will have on your child making accelerated progress
- To enable you to raise any concerns of your own
- To discuss your needs if your child was asked to work remotely (if you have not completed the remote learning questionnaire online)

## New restrictions and guidance

The new restrictions for Warrington, in addition to the existing measures, are:

- Residents will be restricted from mixing with people outside their household in any indoor setting **by law**, including restaurants, bars and other indoor venues
- People are also advised not to meet people outside their household, or support bubble, in any outdoor setting, including parks, outdoor events or pub gardens

The police will be able to take action against those who break these rules, including asking people to disperse and issuing fixed penalty notices for those who participate in illegal gatherings.



Some families rely on others for child care. The guidance states that the following people can provide childcare support in private homes and gardens:

- Registered childcare providers, including nannies
- People who are in your support bubble
- People who are in your child care support bubble

The guidance states that 'Friends and family who do not live with you and are not part of a support or childcare bubble must not visit your home to help with childcare. '

A **support bubble** is where a lone adult household with one adult joins another household (on an exclusive basis).

A **childcare bubble** is where someone in one household can provide informal childcare to a child aged 13 or under in another household. This must occur on an exclusive basis, with always the same two households.

We are seeing some families organising childcare with different households collecting their children and other parents asking us to do something about it as they feel their children are at risk. As we have stated before, we have no jurisdiction in enforcing this but ask that you please, please, please continue to keep to these rules to enable us to keep our school open, our staff and families safe and your children in face-to-face education.

With kindest regards,



Mrs J Narraway

Head Teacher



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