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Poplar Avenue, Townville, Castleford, West
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Tel: 01977 519281
Headteacher: Mrs K Robinson
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Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your support and patience while we try manage the ever-changing information regarding Covid-19 and the effect this is having on the country. The Government have now released further information about the next steps we need to take as a school.

Airedale Junior School and Infant School will have to move to Remote home Learning - to **most** children from tomorrow, until February Half Term. We have to act in accordance with the Government Directive. This will support social distancing and limit the spread of the virus to members of the community who may be more susceptible to complications from the virus and the threat of the new variant.

Children who are registered in Nursery at Airedale Infant School, can continue to attend their usual Nursery session. This falls under the directive for Early Years Settings.

Some children will still be able to access the school day, in the school building, if they are either **vulnerable** or the children of **Critical/Key Workers**. We will need to staff this appropriately so we can maintain safety and security for staff and children.

We have already identified those children who are **vulnerable** and have taken measures to ensure their safety during the closures. Parents will be informed personally.

The Government have said that **Critical/ Key workers** are people who work within the public sector in roles that are vital to the infrastructure of the community. They include teachers, police officers, armed forces personnel, prison personnel and National Health Service (NHS) workers. A full list of key workers is available at the end of this letter. Please note this is the list we were given in the March Lockdown and until we have further guidance, we will work from this list.

If your child attended school during the previous lockdown as a critical worker child, you can send your child to school tomorrow morning. **PLEASE bring evidence with you, even if you shared it with us in March.** (This could be a work document, lanyard or other evidence of employment in the critical sector. We have to supply this information to the Department for Education who will check our records.



For new to school parents and parents of children in YEAR 3, if your employment covers the jobs listed on this letter, please attend school and bring relevant evidence with you and email information to headteacher@airedale-jun.wakefield.sch.uk

In order to calculate the staffing levels we require, to meet these guidelines, we need you to please email headteacher@airedale-jun.wakefield.sch.uk with details as to why you are classed by the Government as a Key Worker. We can then process this while your child is in school on Tuesday.

In your email, please include:

- Name and class of all your children in both/either Airedale Infant and Junior Schools
- What days you require your child to attend school
- Key Worker status- why you feel your child/ren qualify as key worker
- If your child/ren will require a hot meal (at usual cost, unless in receipt of FSM)
- If your child will be provided with a packed lunch from home

We understand that it is an anxious time for everyone as we prepare for another national lockdown. We will take all necessary steps to reopen to as many children as possible when we are permitted to do so. The systems are in place to support remote/home learning and your child's class teacher is contactable through Seesaw.

Thank you for your patience in this time of further confusion,
Mrs Robinson

Critical (Key) Workers- As identified in March 2020 and subject to change

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to:

- doctors,
- nurses,
- midwives,
- paramedics,
- social workers,
- care workers
- other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers;
- the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector;
- those working as part of the health and social care supply chain,
- including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

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Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services,
- such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arm's length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the:

- air,
- water,



- road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition,
- including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sector