

Stephenson Memorial Primary School Martin Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, NE28 0AG

Tel: (0191) 500 6670 Email: info@smemorial.co.uk

Mrs K.Lilico, Acting Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: School Closure 4th - 15th January 2021

Firstly let me wish you all a very Happy New Year, I hope that you have managed to have a safe and lovely time with your family over the break. I am really sorry that this letter is coming to you late, but I wanted to make sure that I had all information available and a plan to share before contacting you.

As you will know from headlines in the press the NEU (England's largest teaching union) yesterday advised its members of their legal right not to return to a full classroom on the grounds of health and safety. Following this, several members of staff at Stephenson Memorial have informed me that due to the rise in infections they have chosen to follow union advice. Their wish is to move to remote learning, providing provision for critical workers, vulnerable children and those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home. This is in order to reduce close contact.

Unfortunately, with the proportion of staff undertaking this advice, we are making the decision to only open school to children who are deemed to fit in the above categories from tomorrow Tuesday 5th January until Friday 15th January. I apologise that this may cause some issues for families in terms of childcare, the lateness of this information is not the fault of the school.

Our plans are as follows:

Our 2 year old provision and Nursery provision will remain open as usual.

For Reception to Year 6

If your child has been allocated a place, we will be contacting you today, your child will be in their normal classroom, with their usual teacher - albeit with a smaller group of their class. Timings of the day will remain the same. Please ensure only one adult brings your child to school and picks them up at the correct time.

If your child is to stay at home, we will be contacting you to let you know that remote learning will be put in place as quickly as possible. This will mirror what is happening in the classroom. Work will need to be uploaded and will be monitored throughout the day by members of staff. Guidance on our remote learning policy can be found on the website.

Again, this is an ever changing and unprecedented situation and we will keep you up to date as soon as possible with further information.





















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Thank you in anticipation for your support and understanding in these highly challenging times, we are as ever here to help and support in anyway that we can.

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