



Bramham Primary School
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22nd June 2020

Dear Parents

We are writing to you as parents of Y1 children who are currently attending our Key Worker Provision. We are very aware that you are in a unique position and that some of you are concerned about your children not being able to return to the classroom bubble provision, with either Miss Allen or Miss Camm. We are therefore writing to outline the consideration and thought that has gone into the care and education that we are giving your children.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge that the last few months must have been a very challenging time for you as Key Workers. We understand that you need full days of childcare and are therefore keeping your children within our Key Worker Provision. We are glad that we have been able to provide this for you – we are very lucky to have such a wonderful team of support staff who have been able to work at this time.

We are aware that some of you would have liked us to offer full days in the classroom bubbles and that you may have felt the Government indicated this in their guidance. However, unfortunately we are not always able to safely put everything in place that has been suggested. We desperately want to get things right for every one of the children in our schools and have been working extremely hard to try and do so. I am sorry that we have not been able to offer five *full* days in the classroom - we have certainly endeavoured to do our absolute best. Staffing our KW Provision, plus our Y6 and now Y1 provision, is very complex at present with the need for bubbles of 15 or fewer, ensuring that we have support if children are taken ill, plus the fact that some staff are shielding or unable to work. All of this limits what we can do; we also have to avoid mixing bubbles, which constrains how we can work with children in KW Provision and children just starting to return to school today.

The large group of Y1 children in KW Provision is something we have discussed at length with Miss Allen and the Senior Staff Team, as well as our Chair of Governors. We are all concerned that they do not miss out in any way and have put careful plans in place to avoid this. **The KW children will follow the plans that Miss Allen is producing each week**, indeed she is **sharing these with KW staff and providing resources** for them to use. Our aim is to have as much consistency as possible. Of course, the two kinds of provision do differ and there will be some things that are not exactly replicated. KW children have more time in school and will therefore **benefit from additional access to more play and outdoor learning**. They also have the opportunity to **socialise with other children** in KW provision, from other year groups. These



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opportunities are of real benefit to the children; I feel that at present they are extremely important as our children need time to interact and to feel safe and relaxed. Their emotional and social well-being is so important, particularly when they are feeling anxious.

Miss Allen has also committed to continuing to make video lessons at present, (although we are not doing this in Y6 as we were concerned about the workload for our teachers, who are teaching every day, emailing parents every day, preparing work-packs and providing support for others). Your children have been very much in our minds as we adjusted the Year 1 provision. In everything that we have done we have considered the three groups of children within the year – children remaining at home, children joining a classroom bubble and children remaining in Key Worker Provision. It is our aim to give these three groups the best care and education that we are able to within the limitations we face. Through the videos and the work-packs, delivered by our dedicated and capable support staff, your children will receive very balanced and well-prepared provision.

We are now able to tell you that our staffing plans for September are almost complete and will be shared with you at the end of this week. As you know, there are plans in place for teachers to meet all their pupils before the end of this term. We can assure you that we are planning the placing of staff, including support staff, with extreme care. Where I have been able, I have worked to ensure there is a familiar member of staff for the children in their new class next year.

Transition is always an important part of the year for us and this year especially, we are focusing very closely on ensuring we do everything we can for the children; we are currently working on these plans and the curriculum for each year group in September and we are very mindful that this year, of the importance in reassuring children to help them to make this step and that we reassure you as parents, that any lost time due to the pandemic and resulting school closure, has been planned for a full recovery next year. We will be writing to all parents about this very soon.

We hope that this letter offers you some reassurance about the provision in place for your children and to our commitment and our genuine care for each one of them.

Many kind regards,

Sarah Richards

Executive Head Teacher

Bramham Shadwell Federation

'Excellence for All'



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