



Kirkburton Middle School

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Telephone: 01484 222737

Headteacher: Mr C Taylor

5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are well given the circumstances we find ourselves in once again. I'd like to start by apologising for contacting you so late yesterday evening. Unfortunately it took over 40 minutes for our communications provider to send my email such was the demand from schools nationally. That said, I'm not sure where we would be without the channels of communication available to us.

As you can imagine, it is a huge logistical operation moving our onsite provision to a remote offer and as such it may take us a day or two until things are completely up to speed. Can I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding in relation to this. I would like to update you on the following-

- Remote education
- Free school meals support
- Critical worker provision
- Safeguarding and support
- Medicines in school
- Confirmed Covid 19 cases
- Social media

Remote Education

The government has recently updated the expectations in relation to remote education. We will write more fully over the coming days in relation to our provision however our plans at the moment are-

- Lessons are compulsory
- Live lessons will be delivered via Microsoft Teams in line with pupils timetables for most subjects. Please see the end of this letter for the timings of our lockdown school day
- All lessons will be recorded and uploaded to the Teams channel for each subject area for those pupils who are unable to attend the lesson live
- Regular assignments will be set, using Microsoft Teams, to assess pupil progress and levels of engagement
- Pupils will be rewarded in line with school policy when assignments are completed
- Parents will be contacted where there are behavior issues or concerns about pupil engagement

We appreciate that live lessons may not suit all pupils but we feel it is the best option available in order to provide a continuity of education. We also recognise that access to devices and internet speeds may be an issue



for some households; if either of these is a barrier for your family please contact school. We have distributed some school devices using the information from the recent survey and we will also be applying to the government for more devices.

We hope the pupils enjoyed their remote lessons this afternoon; a reminder that lessons for Year 6 will start tomorrow morning.

For more information about Microsoft Teams, including instructional videos and 'how to' guides, please visit the [Covid 19 section of the school website](#). If you have issues with logging on, please email jwebster@scissett.com or contact the school office.

We have listened to your feedback and will endeavor to provide teaching activities which don't require printed materials. Should your child require an exercise book to work in or any other resources, please contact the school office.

Contacting Staff

Please see page 5 of the school planner for full details about contacting staff. Please be aware staff will be teaching full timetables however they will get back to you at their earliest convenience.

Free School Meals

For those pupils accessing the provision in school, a meal will be provided each day. Where children are not attending, we will continue to distribute supermarket vouchers.

Critical worker provision

Thank you to those parents who have applied for places in our critical worker provision. **If you have completed the online form, we are able to offer your child a place this week.** We are conscious that many people completed the form before the national lockdown announcement was made and as such circumstances may have changed. We have also had a number of parents who have requested part-time provision which we now might be able to offer. As such, in order to enable us to provide the best support possible, [we ask all parents who require critical worker provision for next week onwards to complete the new form here by no later than 12 noon on Thursday](#). **Please note we will not be in a position to accept more pupils after this deadline has passed.**

When applying for critical worker provision we ask parents consider the following-

- Pupils in school will not be taught differently to those at home.
- Pupils in school will attend the same live lessons as those at home and staff in school will merely provide supervision.
- Where possible, we would ask pupils bring their own devices into school.
- Our remote learning offer is now far more structured and as such it will require much less parental input than during the previous lockdown.
- We are keen to keep numbers to an absolute minimum in school in order to reduce any potential transmission of the virus. This not only keeps people safe, it enables us to provide a continuity of education.

We recognise that for many families they have no other option than to use the critical worker provision and we will continue to offer as much support as we can.

Safeguarding and Support

The period of forced partial school closures is an unsettling time for many families and as a school, we aim to continue to support our pupils in every way possible. In addition to learning resources being provided, the Safeguarding team in school will also be monitoring the welfare of our most vulnerable children.

Should any of our families have concerns around the safety or wellbeing of children from our school community you can contact members of the Safeguarding team directly for advice or support on the following email addresses:

Mrs Senior – Safeguarding Lead
g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Mr MacIntyre – Deputy Safeguarding Lead
a.macintyre@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

In addition, please take note of the services listed at the end of this letter which can offer independent support and advice for young people and families.

Medicines in school

We are aware that we store medication for a number of pupils in school. If you need access to this medication during the partial closure period, please could you collect it as soon as possible. We're happy to store any 'spare' medication which isn't needed at home.

Confirmed Covid 19 cases

We hope that all staff, pupils and families remain well during the partial closure period; we trust you will follow all government advice in order to keep you and your families safe. If during the period of partial closure your child tests positive for Covid 19, please notify the school at your earliest convenience.

Social media

For those who don't follow social media, can I suggest you make an exception for this period in time and follow either our school Twitter feed or visit our Facebook page. We know parents found the content very engaging during the lockdown in March.

I think that is all for today. If you have any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact school. As I always tell the pupils, if you've got a question the chances are other people have the same question and so they'll be very pleased that you've asked it on their behalf. We'll make sure we share any frequently asked questions and answers with all parents.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and I wish you and your family all the best with this latest lockdown.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Taylor
Headteacher

Lockdown School Day

Period 1: 9.00 – 9.50

Period 2: 10.00 – 10.50

Period 3: 11.10 – 12.00

Class time: 1.00 – 1.20 (Mon, Wed, Fri)

Period 4: 1.30 – 2.20

Period 5: 2.30 – 3.20

Kirklees Support Services

Thriving Kirklees

Health Care advice, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Support, Healthcare Signposting

www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk

0300 304 5555

Northorpe Hall – Kirklees

Children's mental and emotional health service

www.northorpehall.co.uk

01924 492183

Kirklees Children's services

Safeguarding Services

www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk

01484 456848

Services for young people

Thriving Kirklees

Chathealth – Text message services for young people – direct link to School Nurse

07520618866

Childline

www.childline.org.uk

0800 1111

NSPCC

Support for Parents and Children

www.nspcc.org.uk

Parents/carers – 0808 800 5000

Children – Via Childline 0800 1111

Duty and Advice – Quick Reference Numbers

The following are phone numbers for Children's Services Duty and Advice team.
If you have an immediate concern for a child's safety call the police on 999

For professional (24 hours):	01484 414 960
For members of the public (9am-5pm office hours):	01484 456848
For members of the public, outside of 9am-5pm office hours:	Please call the relevant services
If you are a child:	01484 456 848 or Child Line: 0800 1111 (calls are free)

Thrivng Kirklees

If you're aged 11-19 (Year 7 and above) text your Thriving Kirklees nurse **07520 618866**

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ChatHealth

www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk

