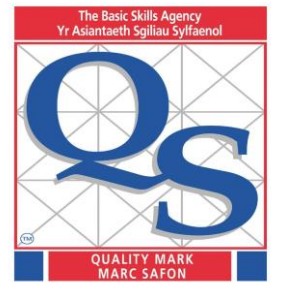


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13th January 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I apologise for needing to write to you again as I'm sure you are being bombarded with a great deal of information at the current time. However, it is my job to ensure that pupils, parents, staff and the wider community are kept as safe as possible.

As I have communicated in previous letters, we have been inundated with applications for the childcare classes. Therefore I thought this would be a good opportunity to remind you of the criteria for an emergency childcare place:

- Your child must be school age and registered to attend Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School;
- One parent must be a critical worker and attending the workplace;
- Where there is a second parent in the household they must also be a critical worker and must be required to attend the workplace (e.g. not working from home) and the child cannot be safely cared for at home;
- You must reside within Caerphilly Borough.

If children attend school when the provision is not required then we are defeating the 'Stay Home' message which has been clearly articulated by the Welsh Government. The more children that attend school, the more staff are required to attend and this puts increased risk on families and the wider community. Movement and interactions need to be as limited as they possibly can be. Priority for childcare places will be given to people working in health and social care, the police and emergency services.

Over the coming days we will be going through all of the applications we have received as we believe there may have been some confusion with the initial criteria. It appears in some instances that parents have not provided all of the required information such as details of both parents. If one or both parents are working from home then the child should not attend the childcare setting and should remain at home. We are also aware that some parents are working part time but have requested full time childcare or one sibling is coming into school and the other sibling is staying at home. Where we become aware that the childcare facility is not being used appropriately we will be discussing this with parents.

We all have a responsibility to help limit the spread of Coronavirus. We all want schools to reopen as soon as possible and for life to return to normal. Therefore we all have a combined responsibility to use the childcare facility only when it is absolutely essential.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your anticipated support.

Mr C George
Headteacher
Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School