

Wednesday 27 January 2021

Dear parents and carers

Places for critical worker children

We have recently had a number of new requests asking us to provide places for critical worker children.

We do understand how difficult it is to juggle work and children and, if it were possible, we would prefer to have every child in school. However, we set the deadline for places back at the beginning of January to enable us to plan within the government guidelines, taking into account staffing, classroom space, etc. Every place requested by the deadline was given. We were then able to set up contained year group bubbles. Keeping consistent, contained groups has served us well when we've had to close bubbles as it has not impacted on the whole school. Taking children on an ad hoc basis increases the risk to the groups.

Staff begin lateral flow testing at the end of this week which, alongside the current PCR testing and 10 days' self-isolation as necessary, which will continue to impact on staffing levels. We already have over 250 children in school. Taking staffing, space, etc into account we are not in a position to safely take more children at this point.

The remote learning we are seeing via the year group emails is absolutely brilliant and we thank you all for doing such a fantastic job in such trying times.

With thanks for your support



Claire Bennett
Headteacher