

Brundall School
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Headteacher: Mr. R. Stuart-Sheppard NPQH, LLE



6th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Thank you for the messages we have received over the past few days. From Friday's mail, when we were setting out reminders for a safe return to school, through events of the weekend and the Prime Minister's message on Monday evening, the emails we have received reflect much of what we have been experiencing: disappointment that the live learning of the Autumn term cannot continue; anxiety and concern about the sharp rise in infections with the new strain of the virus, and an expectation that we do everything we can to build on the good learning and catch up of the last term, even in these difficult and changing circumstances.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we worked to keep up with rapidly changing guidance, lack of guidance, and new guidance. The decisions we took were to ensure health and safety concerns were addressed for all in the school community and families; the decisions we are now making are to ensure we do all we can to keep the learning going for the children at Brundall.

Under the new restrictions, schools are closed to all but children of critical workers and vulnerable children. The guidance on who critical workers are is broad, and this may mean we will prioritise offers of places following this first week, to Health Care, Emergency Services and Education settings personnel and vulnerable children in the first instance. We are expecting further clarification on this. We need to limit groups so that we can safely have the children in school, and that teaching staff are available to progress with Remote Learning. Therefore, we ask you to think carefully about requesting a place, and if alternative provision can be made, please do this.

We are looking to build on the learnings of the last lockdown, and using our Teams platform which was introduced at the school last term. From feedback, we know parents and carers value the personal contact and interaction of live 'virtual' engagement, alongside the educational links, clips and learning on offer, and we will work to improve and develop our offer over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your understanding and support at this time. Because of our current working patterns, the best way to contact the school is through the office@brundall.norfolk.sch.uk address, or through your child's learning account if it is a class/learning related matter.

R. Stuart-Sheppard/S. Sutton

