

JOHN EMMERSON BATTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

WALNUT GROVE REDCAR TS10 3PG
Head Teacher: Mr. Martin Kitchen
Tel: 01642 483697
Fax: 01642 470572



ACHIEVE BELIEVE CHALLENGE

22nd March 2020

Dear Key Worker,

Reducing Risks to All

The current government guidance on keeping schools open states:

'If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the government has asked parents to keep their children at home wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.'

Over the weekend the Education Secretary said:

'You should only send your child to school if you have to, because your work is critical to our COVID-19 response. If you are able to keep your child at home, you should.'

Please may I ask that if you have been allocated places for your child/children to attend school whilst it is closed, that you only access this as an absolute last resort in order to keep numbers as low as possible to help reduce the spread of the Covid19 virus. The larger the gathering of children and staff, the greater the risks to all.

Therefore, can we ask that children only attend on days where there are no other viable options available; they should not come to school if you or other adults are working from home, not at work, or another relative or a trusted friend (not in a high risk category) is available to look after them.

The guidance does state that only a single parent needs to be a Key Worker for a child to be offered a place, but I must stress again that keeping this group small provides the best chance of protecting everyone. We ask that you only use the days / hours that you need and where a parent or carer works for part of the day, we would ask that your child be collected as soon as they can be. There are no attendance procedures and children can be taken home at any time.

I am sure you will appreciate, if a child displaying symptoms during the day or presents unwell upon arrival, parents and carers will be asked to take them home to isolate, following the current government guidelines.

Continued...

"Aim High.....Reach For Your Goal!"



JOHN EMMERSON BATTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

WALNUT GROVE REDCAR TS10 3PG
Head Teacher: Mr. Martin Kitchen
Tel: 01642 483697
Fax: 01642 470572



Please also note that it is likely that this provision will close (for a period of time) if a case directly linked to the attending group is confirmed. While we will clearly do what we can to ensure we are supporting other front line staff for as long as possible, in the event that too few staff are available to run the provision we would also have no option other than to close. Under such circumstances, keyworkers would be directed to the Redcar and Cleveland Local Authority for them to identify alternative provision.

Please be reminded that, as we are closed, although we are keeping basic channels of communication open (phone and email schoolclosure@jebatty.rac.sch.uk), these are mainly for absenteeism of the children we are offering the provision to. We will however be lightly managing both channels and will aim to address any other queries as soon as possible Monday to Friday.

I would like to thank all key workers for the dedication and sacrifice they are making to ensure vital work continues. Here I would include our own staff who are continuing to be placed at increased risk simply by attending school. As with other Key Workers many have chosen to continue to work with underlying health conditions and vulnerable relatives at home to ensure school continues to support health professional as they save lives. If you are a Key Worker and you have no option other than to send your child to school to be cared for, we feel passionate about wanting to help.

Thank you again for your patience during this challenging time. We will do our very best to keep this provision open for as long possible in order to support our families and the community to address the national crisis we now find ourselves in.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kitchen'.

Martin Kitchen
Head Teacher



"Aim High.....Reach For Your Goal!"

