

# Federation of Grewelthorpe and Fountains C of E Primary Schools



*Believe Learn Flourish*  
*With*  
*Faith Hope Love*

Headteacher: Pam Acheson



5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID-19 case numbers are rising rapidly across the whole of the UK and in other countries so the Government have introduced new measures from today to help reduce the rates of infection. The new measures will apply nationally for four weeks up to Wednesday 2 December. At the end of this period, we have been informed that we will return to a regional approach, based on the latest data.

The government continues to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our children and young people and will not be closing early years settings, schools, further education colleges or universities. It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians.

## **Early years and childcare**

There are several ways that parents and carers can continue to access childcare for the duration of the national restrictions:

- early years settings and childminders remain open, and parents of under-5s can continue to use these settings as normal
- parents will be able to access other childcare activities (including wraparound care) where reasonably necessary to enable parents to work, seek work, attend education or training, or for the purposes of respite care for carers
- nannies will be able to continue to provide services in the home
- parents are able to form a childcare bubble with another household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under
- some households will also be able to benefit from being in a support bubble, which allows single adult households to join another household

## **Schools**

Schools continue to remain open for all children and young people as they have since the start of the autumn term for the duration of the national restrictions.

## **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable**

More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from coronavirus (COVID-19), even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable.

Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Schools will need to make appropriate arrangements to enable them to continue their education at home. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education.

Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.

### **Out-of-school activities and wraparound childcare**

Out-of-school activities (including wraparound care) may continue to operate if their primary purpose is providing registered childcare, or where they are offering other childcare activities, where this is reasonably necessary to enable parents to:

- work or search for work
- undertake training or education
- or for the purposes of respite care, including for vulnerable children

We will still provide our Kidzone (Breakfast Club) provision. Children attending will be grouped in either their family bubble or their class bubbles. We are also offering class bubbles the opportunity to attend a club to support parent's child care needs.

After school club letters have been sent out and each club has now been allocated a class bubble to ensure that children are not coming into contact with children from other classes.

### **Face Coverings**

To help minimize the risks we have also made the decision to ask all parents and carers to wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up their children on the school site. If staff need to speak with you, they will also be wearing a mask and will maintain a distance of 2 meters.

On behalf of everyone at Grewelthorpe and Fountains Primary Schools, we thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Mrs Pam Acheson  
Headteacher