



Convent Road
Fenham Hall Drive
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9XZ
Telephone: 0191 2746695
Headteacher: Mrs B Brown
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs K McKenna
Website: www.sacredhprim.newcastle.sch.uk
Email: admin@shprimary.org.uk

21.05.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach half term, I wanted to write to you to congratulate you on the great job that you are doing with home schooling, in whatever shape that has taken over the last weeks, even if it feels like you're hanging on by your fingertips! Thank you for sharing many of your experiences with us, we have loved seeing them, now I want to share with you some of the plans for next half term.

We are looking forward to seeing more of the children as soon as it is safe to do so and can't wait until the school is full of life again, we are working hard to plan this. The safety of the children, staff and all families is our first priority so as well as consulting with you as families, we are following the government's guidance, working with governors, the Trust, the Local Authority, local schools and unions to make this happen.

School may look a little different, but we want to give you the confidence to know that, as well as safety from the virus we will do everything we can to make sure that mental health and wellbeing are at the forefront of our thinking.

As you know we have remained open throughout this crisis to the children of key workers, which allowed them to continue to carry out their jobs on the frontline in the fight against Covid 19. Our thanks and admiration go out to them during this very difficult time alongside thanks to our staff who have looked after these children in school.

Following survey information gathered from you about children returning to school, initial indications show us that many families would rather not send their children back to school straight away.

The number of requests for places for children of key workers however has gone up dramatically from the current number of 2-12 children per day to 80-90 which, as you can see is a vast difference. As a consequence, we will need to work on a phased, priority basis in order to make this transition. Enabling the children of key workers to return will also have to be a priority, before the children in nursery, reception, Y1 and Y6.

In the first instance priority will be given to children with both parents who are key workers, then one parent as a key worker, Y6, Y1, Reception and nursery in that order. We will use the evidence provided to us to establish which children will be allocated a place and contact you to approve this by text. Children will only be able to attend school if you have provided us with this evidence and you have had this confirmation from us.

Sadly, this means that many children who wish to return to school may not have the opportunity to do so as quickly as they hoped. (Please see our letter addressed to the children.)

Home schooling will continue after half term and information is available on your child's class blog each week. Please make sure that you all have a break next week and look after yourselves, no work will be set for next week.

We will share more details with you as soon as it is possible to do so and thank you in advance for your understanding and patience during this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'B Brown'.

