



# Nunnery Wood Primary School



Tuesday 5th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience as we continue to adjust and create plans to meet the latest government guidelines.

As I have said numerous time before, and will probably continue to do so for the foreseeable future, this pandemic is proving to be one of the most challenging times for headteacher's, and the last twenty-four hours have once again confirmed this.

Throughout this pandemic the governors, staff and I have been committed to supporting the children and families to the best of our ability. I have had to make some incredibly difficult and not always agreeable decisions based upon guidance and staffing I have available.

We are now in a lockdown until at least February half-term. Currently there is no updated guidance to support schools to make very difficult decisions based on their resources. All members of staff are keyworkers and want to support our school community but like everyone else they are also parents, daughters/sons, friends and staff who are not immune to the virus. Therefore, like every business, company or setting I have to make decisions based on the resources I have available.

As a school we have to provide keyworker bubbles and remote learning for all children. The key to success of these is to ensure that it is sustainable. As a school over the past few months we have invested in additional resources to support children and parents. However, it is not the same for children as what makes a school is children in school, learning and interacting with their friends.

**From tomorrow (Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY)** We will establish our keyworker bubbles for Year 6, Year 5, Year 4 and Year 1. We have had to create more keyworker bubbles than the previous lockdown due to numbers and to enable us to support online (remote) learning within school for those key worker children. However, this means our resources are further stretched.

If you are a keyworker we will be creating year group keyworker bubbles with the limited resources I have available. We have been inundated with requests so therefore I have to establish set criteria to allocate places. In order to ensure the safety of your children and the staff I have to limit these to **15 children per day** in each year group bubble. I understand this might be challenging for some parents who are working from home and balancing supporting their children's learning but I have no other option as this is a national lockdown and having a school full of children defeats the objective. As a school we are committed to support our critical workers and the nature of this pandemic is most of us have to make sacrifices to support our NHS.

If you have a child with an EHCP they are eligible for a keyworker space.

## **Keyworkers (Critical Workers)**

Children of keyworkers are those who used the keyworker bubbles in the spring term last year (2020). Unfortunately, already we have been oversubscribed for these bubbles so we require proof of key worker status. This puts the school in an impossible position but I have to ensure that I continue to create a safe environment in school for children and staff.

Children in keyworker bubbles will complete the same learning as those who are at home working remotely.

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Website: [www.nunnerywoodprimary.co.uk](http://www.nunnerywoodprimary.co.uk)

**Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Higgins**





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Therefore, places will be allocated based on the following criteria below.

1. All children who have an EHCP.
2. If **both** parents job fulfils one of the descriptions below.
3. If you are a single parent whose job fulfils one of the descriptions below.
4. Vulnerable children will be allocated places by my safeguarding team.
5. If one parents job fulfils one of the descriptions below:
  - Health and Social care - This includes but is not limited to doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.
  - Education and Childcare - This includes nursery and teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who must remain active during the COVID-19 response to deliver this approach.
  - Key Public Services - This includes those essential to the running of the justice system, religious staff, charities and workers delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting.
  - Local and National Government - This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the COVID-19 response or delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, including in government agencies and arms-length bodies.
  - Food and other necessary goods - This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines).
  - Public and National Security - This includes police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic), fire and rescue service employees (including support staff), National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas.
  - Transport - This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the COVID-19 response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.
  - Utilities, communication and financial services - This includes staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure), the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue

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during the COVID-19 response, as well as key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services), postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

If you require use of the keyworker bubbles and you haven't already done so please email [keyworker@nunnerywoodprimary.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:keyworker@nunnerywoodprimary.worcs.sch.uk) stating:

- Which numbered criteria you fall into
- Your name
- Your child's name
- Your child's class/year group
- Your occupation(s)
- The days you require your child to be in the bubble

We will do our utmost to support every child and every family. Please only request a place for the days you require so hopefully we will not have to turn down anyone's request.

- Once you have emailed the keyworker account you will receive a reply today confirming you child's place.
- We will contact parents in years R, 2 and 3 if we are oversubscribed to use the criteria list to prioritise places.

## Treetops

Treetops will remain open as usual for this week but this will be reviewed. I will confirm my decision for next week.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Higgins and the NWPS team

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