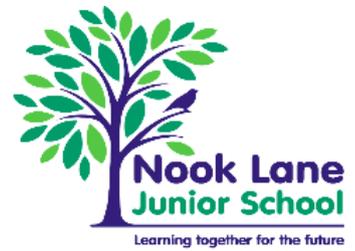




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Headteacher: Mr S. Arbon-Davis;

Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Chadbourne Assistant Headteacher: Ms D Wilkinson

5th March, 2021

Dear parents, carers and families,

We are really looking forward to all children returning to school from next Monday 8th March. Including the Christmas and half term holidays, it will have been 11 weeks since approximately two thirds of Nook Lane pupils have last been in school. We have received tremendous feedback about what has been offered in terms of remote learning and in school during that time. In turn, we are incredibly grateful for the great efforts that parents, carers and families have made supporting children with their learning at home but we also acknowledge that the best place for all children to learn is in school. Just like in September, there will need to be a balance of easing the children back, being mindful of their wellbeing and being sensitive to any anxieties, whilst getting them back into a routine with their learning.

As I mentioned in last week's letter, which included a reminder about the staggered start and finish times, arrangements will largely revert to how things were operating in the autumn term until we are advised otherwise. A slightly revised risk assessment is available on the school website. As national restrictions are gradually lifted and more of the population are vaccinated, the hope is that schools will once again be able to do many of the things that we have all missed out on over the past year. Clearly, we are not in a position to routinely invite parents into school any time soon or to take children away on exciting residential experiences, nor can we simply gather together as a school community for assemblies or performances in the hall but we are getting gradually closer to these things happening again, eventually.

I have also sent out a letter from Greg Fell, Director of Public Health Sheffield, which addresses some pertinent Covid-related matters whilst providing several important reminders so I won't repeat those here, except to say that in the unfortunate event of any future Covid cases, we will continue to be led by Public Health and follow their guidance with the Track and Trace protocols. This could mean that there may be occasions where groups of children or classes are required to self-isolate. This is the last thing we want obviously, after a disrupted period of education, but we have robust remote learning processes established and classes would be able to quickly switch to these arrangements, if it were to happen,

Whether your children have been educated at school during the latest Lockdown, learning from home or from a combination of the two, we are proud of their efforts. I cannot praise them and you, their parents and carers, enough. I am in awe of our terrific Nook Lane team for their incredible contribution in recent weeks, months and indeed over the last, unforgettable year.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to greeting you all back on Monday morning.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Arbon-Davis