

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Dear parents and carers

### **School re-opening plans**

As you will be aware, the rate of coronavirus daily infections has increased to over 50,000. There is also a new variant of the virus, which spreads much more easily.

Over the course of the weekend, unions contacted all staff working in schools. Their advice to colleagues is to work remotely for the time being.

Having gathered as much information as we can, the Chair of Governors and I are now in a position to be able to make a final decision. Based on the low numbers of staffing at Pinfold Street Primary School, **we are unable to reopen for at least this week.**

We know this will cause inconvenience for some of you and, for that, we can only apologise. We have no choice. It is not a decision we have taken lightly.

Sallywags has also informed me that they will **not be open** for this week.

As we have done previously, we will remain open to children of keyworkers and some of our vulnerable children.

#### **What will happen this week?**

Key worker and vulnerable children, including children with an EHCP will be in school, other children will complete their learning at home.

If you require a keyworker place for your child, please complete the form that is attached to this email and return it to our email address [info@pinfold-st.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:info@pinfold-st.walsall.sch.uk)  
Once we receive your form, we will contact you to confirm your place. Key worker provision will begin from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

In addition, we will contact families individually to offer places to those who we feel should be in school.

#### **Compulsory Home Learning**

All other children will be learning from home with lessons shared by staff through Seesaw. Teachers will be in touch with you all regarding arrangements for remote learning from then on. Staff are all still working (with the exception of those who aren't currently well enough to work), but the vast majority will be working remotely. We have a set number of laptops available for pupils who need one, please call the school office **after midday** today if a laptop would help your child to access the home learning.

#### **Free school meals**

Free school meals will be available to all those entitled to them. We will let you what is happening about meals as soon we know.

There will almost certainly be more information to share with you over the coming days, but I wanted to give you as much notice of our decision as possible.

Please look after yourselves.

Mrs Toni Beech  
Headteacher

Mrs Vera Johnston  
Chair of Governors