



GIGGLESWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church Street, Giggleswick, Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 OBJ

e-mail: admin@giggleswick-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk www.giggleswick-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk
Tel. 01729 822248

Executive Headteacher: Miss Trudi Ward

A member of The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools – fostering a love for learning through collaboration.*

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from yesterday's email, I would like to thank you all for your support and cooperation with the sudden need to return to National Lockdown and the impact this has had on our schools and, most importantly, our children. Our staff teams now face the task of switching from their carefully planned face-to-face lessons to the creation of remote learning resources for all children at home. The dedication of each team and their resilience in the face of such rapid change is commendable.

I have outlined some information below that may be of use to you. Please understand that we are following guidance as it emerges and our absolute priority is the safety and well-being of all members of our communities.

Critical key workers

We are currently providing essential childcare and learning in each school for children defined by the government as vulnerable and the children of critical key workers. [Please read this document carefully to decide if your child falls into one of these categories and contact the school office before sending them to school.](#) Please be aware that this list has been updated since the first lockdown in March 2020.

If you are a critical key worker we will need to see evidence of this such as a copy of your photo ID or a letter from your employer. We will also ask for the days/shifts you will be working so we can organise appropriate staff ratios. Limiting attendance is about reducing the number of contacts that all of us have with people in other households.

Remote learning

Class teachers will be in touch using their class email address to share work and links to online learning for children at home. Please check your email account and notify your school office if your contact details have changed. We will be adding a weekly online face-to-face contact with children and will send you guidance on this later this week. Should you wish to have paper copies of resources or reading books etc please email your class teacher to request this.

***The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools** comprises:
Giggleswick and Hellifield Community and Long Preston Endowed (VA) Primary Schools.

School meals

We will continue to provide a hot school meal option for children attending our schools unless the guidance changes. For children who are eligible for free school meals, we can arrange for a daily hot meal to be collected from school or we can provide a weekly food parcel. Please contact your school office to let us know which option you would prefer.

Wrap around care

If your child is eligible to attend school and you think your child will need access to wrap around care please email the office with the days and times needed. We will then determine what options we can offer. At this point, we cannot guarantee that wrap around care will be available.

Contacting school

Each school site will continue to be staffed during the current lockdown except for Friday afternoon. **Schools will shut each Friday at 12 to allow for a thorough cleaning of each site and resources.** The number of staff on site will correspond to the number of children in school and our risk assessments. I will divide my time between each school and will keep a safe distance from the children and other members of staff. The admin emails will continue to be checked daily. If you need to get in touch with us, please ring during school hours or send an email. We will be in touch via email should any new guidance become available.

Limit contact, stay at home, stay safe

We are keen to ensure that we follow the Prime Minister's guidance to limit contact with others and urge families who can care for their children at home to do so. This ultimately reduces the risk of exposure to your child, your closest family and equally supports the safety of staff and other children in our schools. If your child can stay at home, this will help them to stay safe. I am confident that we can work together to ensure an absolute minimum number of children attend each school site and reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission.

It is true that this was not the start I had anticipated when I took on the role of Executive Headteacher. I am most saddened by the lack of opportunity to meet and say hello to you and your children in person. This is something I look forward to when it is safe to do so.

Kind regards

Miss Trudi Ward

Executive Headteacher

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