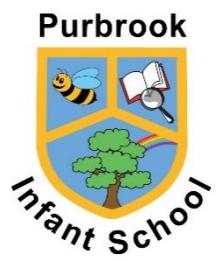


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Headteacher: Lisa A de Carteret  
Assistant Headteacher: Paul Stray  
Business Manager: Hazel K Dean



04 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you so much for persevering with us today, your responses to the Google Form and your patience and kindness have made any organising much easier this morning. We are very grateful.

The time given to us today has meant that I can talk to staff and ascertain current staffing levels. As it stands I have eight members of staff who feel the government have been unable to decrease the transmission and infection rates currently recorded across England related to the new variant of Covid, and thus believe that this presents a serious and imminent danger to their health and safety. They therefore only feel safe teaching fewer children, which can be achieved by only teaching the children of key workers and vulnerable children.

The DFE and Local Authority stance on this is that: "*headteachers should be planning for the full opening of primary schools for the start of term. Therefore, headteachers will have to ascertain the numbers of staff they have attending the school, whether that be because they are Covid positive, self-isolating or declining to come into work. They will then have to take a local decision if they feel they have insufficient staff to open the school safely. Where absolutely necessary they may have to close a bubble or year group*".

This leaves me with a very difficult situation, one where I need to do what is right by everyone, I know I cannot please everyone all the time. I have to open the school to as many pupils as possible under the DFE guidelines.

These classes will be open **in full** to **all** pupils:

- Robins
- Wagtails
- Doves
- Woodpeckers
- Owls

These classes will only be open to **key worker and vulnerable children**; home learning will be offered to those having to work from home:

- Kingfishers
- Blackbirds
- Eagles
- Kestrels

Please note that as the guidance changes this may change, we will as always keep you updated as we hear any new information.

Thank you again,

Best wishes and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L A de Carteret".

Mrs L A de Carteret  
**Headteacher**