26/01/21

Dear parents / carers

As you may be aware we have had to close two class bubbles this week due to pupils in school testing positive for COVID. The pupils and staff from these classes now need to self- isolate for 10 days. Staff have started the process of regular home testing this week, which may also lead to the closure of class bubbles. If you haven’t yet registered your child with our home learning platform please do contact school via windyrl@gatedu.org so that your child is ready to go if they do need to self-isolate. The staff are working hard to provide a varied on line curriculum that the children can access from home. The days are structured with live lessons so that your child(ren) can get to see their teacher and their classmates as well as getting direct instructions on how to complete the work set. Staff are also available to answer any queries related to home learning.

The government guidelines continue to be that ‘parents and carers of critical workers should keep their children at home if they are able to do so.’ A huge thank you to those parents who have continued to support us during this difficult period by only sending their child(ren) into school if they really need a place. We do still have families on the waiting list for a place in school so if you only need a part time place do let us know.

We have adopted a temporary admissions policy that has been agreed by the governing body in consultation with the Local Authority. This policy caps the number of children who are allowed into school based on the school specific risk assessment which takes into account staffing availability and health and safety requirements. Whilst we acknowledge it is extremely difficult for some families to home school their children, the safety of staff and the whole Windy Nook community continues to be our priority. It is for this reason we continue to try and limit the number of children in school to those critical workers who have no alternative childcare.

Thank you again for your support and for your feedback linked to home learning. Mrs. Hope has collated the results and will update you later this week with some of the changes we are making and some answers to the queries you had.

As always, we will update you with any changes to our current school provision.

Stay safe

Lucie Forrest