NEWBROUGH CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOURSTONES,

HEXHAM

**NORTHUMBERLAND,**

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 **Head teacher Jo Trotter**



15/5/20

Dear Parents,

Many thanks to those of you who replied so promptly to the letter I sent on Wednesday and thanks, too, for the many comments about the well-being of staff included in your responses.

We have now received additional guidance from the DfE.

The guidance states that schools should not plan for a rota system either weekly or daily and that the part time return of children is **not** an option except where there are existing pre-planned standard rotas (e.g. 15 hour nursery provision).

We have also been told to focus as a priority on the children of key workers and vulnerable groups. This should be followed by Nursery then Reception children, then Y1 and finally Y6 children in that order.

It is looking increasingly likely that we will **only** be able to accommodate the children of key workers and those who are classed as vulnerable ifschools reopen on June 1st. Other children in N/R/Y1 and Y6 will not be able to have a place at this time. We simply do not have enough staff available to manage the numbers of children the DfE are asking us to accommodate AND put in place the social distancing measures needed to reduce the risk of infection for children and staff as much as possible without operating on a rota basis. We have to make decisions based on what is best for the children and staff in our school.

The guidance also tells us that Wrap around Care should **not** be offered when schools reopen because this would potentially involve children from different groups mixing. I appreciate that this is going to present some very real challenges for many of you who are returning to work and I will continue to try and come up with a solution to this.

The guidance that is coming into school is changing on a daily basis. I will try to keep you updated as best I can as our plans change and evolve in response to each additional piece of DfE guidance.

Stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Jo Trotter and

Mary Pedley (Chair of Governors)