



Coniston Primary School

Working together we can succeed

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Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year! Hopefully 2021 will be a vast improvement on 2020!! I am well aware that you will all have been following the developments in the news regarding school going back. The Government have their opinion backed up with their data, the Teaching Unions have their opinions and their data and the Local Authority have been in contact with all Headteachers to share their stance on this subject.

As far as I am concerned, as Headteacher of Coniston Primary School, I will always do what I feel is in the best interests of our community, our children and our staff and will do everything in my power to keep them safe at all times. The Local Authority will back me up and I will also continue to work with other local Headteachers so that we are able to use local data to inform our decisions.

As it stands, the Local Authority data states that our 'R' rating is lower than other parts of the country. Obviously this can change in the coming days, especially after the festive period. I will continue to keep families updated with the latest advice and guidance and any future school closures will be communicated immediately to ensure limited impact on those parents who are working and will require childcare.

It is 2.30pm on Monday 4th January. At this moment in time, we will be open tomorrow as usual. We have a robust Risk Assessment that has worked very well so far. We have very strict rules in place that have limited us to only two Bubble closures and three positive tests (adults). This is much lower than the majority of schools and shows that our Risk Assessment works. Things seem to be changing all the time, I am unable to update you any further at the moment but if things change I will be in contact immediately.

A few reminders for tomorrow:

- The children need to arrive from 8.40am (no earlier) they will walk straight to class, allowing parents to leave straight away.
- All children must have arrived by 8.55am as that is when the gates will be closed.
- A reminder that they must come in the correct uniform. PE uniform is to be worn on PE days. **(Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 need their PE uniform tomorrow). Children not in PE kit will be told to go home with their parents and change (see Risk Assessment).**
- No school bags allowed, all children should have a Coniston bookbag.
- Please ensure that your child has all their belongings. Staff will not be allowed to take things from parents to pass on to their children.
- **All adults must wear a face covering when dropping off and picking up, this is now non-negotiable.**
- **Pick Up times – 3pm** - EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 (plus older siblings) **3.10pm** - Year 3 and Year 4 (plus older siblings) **3.15pm** - Year 5 and Year 6.

The staff were all in today and very much looking forward to welcoming your children back tomorrow. If you have any questions or worries, please email me or the office.

Best wishes
Alan Walters

