

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Mr T Whitehead
Headteacher

Kildwick CE VC Primary School



31st March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last couple of weeks have been very challenging as our lives have changed dramatically in a collective effort to slow down the spread of coronavirus.

It has also been a very challenging and difficult time in school, as we have closed to pupils except for those from families where their parents are key workers, and the children therefore cannot always be cared for at home. In Kildwick this amounts to under 10 children who are now using this childcare service.

The staff at Kildwick have handled these changes very professionally and the governors are extremely grateful that, for the safety of the children using this new service, they have kept numbers as low as possible, and adopted very stringent hygiene arrangements, including a complete 'caretaker clean' of the school both morning and evening. We are grateful to you, too, for finding alternative ways of caring for your children if at all possible.

I'm sure most of you will have mastered the 'virtual classroom' materials that the school has put in place via Google. We appreciate that it can be a challenge trying to establish a routine with children who are not going into school and encouraging them to do some schoolwork. That will be particularly tough if you are trying to work from home at the same time! However, we know now that this period of school closure may go on for some time, so it's important to do all we can to ensure that children continue to learn and to practise the skills that they have already mastered in school. That way we can ensure that it impacts less seriously on children's longer-term progress and attainment. If you are struggling to access the virtual classroom, please let the school know.

Finally, I wanted to reassure you that the Governing Body is continuing to meet, albeit through video conferencing, rather than in person. We are preparing to review the School's Strategic Development Plan, which is a set of priorities for the school, which governor's monitor progress against. Mr Whitehead will be contacting parents shortly, to seek your views on this, so you can make suggestions concerning what the priorities of the school should be next year, and how you feel the school could more closely meet the needs of your children. Please do respond to this opportunity so that we can ensure that the School Strategic Development Plan responds to the things that are important to you.

With every good wish to you and your family in this difficult time,

Kind regards

Geraldine Sands
Chair of Governors