

Meir Road Normacot Stoke on Trent Staffordshire ST3 7JG Tel. 01782235377

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Dr Ralf Müller Headteacher

4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the New Year. We were really looking forward to welcoming you all back tomorrow, but unfortunately very recent events have meant we have been faced with a very complicated picture. We apologise for the late notice but this was out of our control.

As of end of day today on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January, we have made the difficult decision that due to a lack of staffing, we have to inform you that until further notice, we will only be able to offer in school learning for our Y6 pupils and children of critical workers and those deemed vulnerable.

The rest of year 3, 4 and 5 pupils will be offered remote learning only, therefore remain at home, until further notice. Children of critical workers are offered a place to attend school. Please consult the following link to check if you are eligible (<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision?fbclid=lwAROT-AVuGamvkRat8tCuJa8lthZXJ4AF-yZi2jY07olL4Obr-qwpscbUmZk#critical-workers)</a>

Should your child fall into the category of "vulnerable child", that is, have an EHCP, be a looked after child or have involvement with social services or have no internet access, they are strongly advised to come to school. Families without a device are asked to contact school and we will do our best to get a device to you.

As you will have heard in the news, the government is urging Primary Schools in England to open unless they are located in areas with particular high infection rates where the new strain of the virus has taken hold. Secondary school pupils are remote learning for a certain period to help the schools to get a new testing regime off the ground. Several scientists and the opposition are calling for tougher measures and teacher and public sector unions including some of the main teacher unions have advised their members to inform their employers that they do not consider to return to







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work as they feel there is an imminent danger to their health and safety. The NAHT, the union advising school leaders, are asking headteachers to honour the other union's advice. We are continuously requesting updates on these developments to inform our decision making and as this is a fast evolving situation, we will be back in touch with you as soon as there are new developments.

We will be in touch as soon as possible to support with online learning procedures and advise about food hampers.

If you have any questions please contact us at the school office.

Thank you for your understanding and support at this time.

Yours sincerely, Mr R Müller Headteacher



