



PARTNERSHIP OF DRONFIELD SCHOOLS (PODS)

Barlow C of E Primary School, Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School (DHFS), Dronfield Infant School, Dronfield Junior School, Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery, Holmesdale Infant School, Lenthall Infant and Nursery School, Northfield Junior School, Penny Acres Primary School, St. Andrew's C of E Methodist Primary School, Stonelow Junior School, Unstone St. Mary's Nursery and Infant School, Unstone Junior School, Wigley Primary School, William Levick Primary School

11th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the announcement from the Prime Minister last night we felt the need to write to you all. As Headteachers we heard the message just as you did, and we were given no prior warning of what the Prime Minister was going to announce. So with that in mind we are asking that you please be patient with us. I am sure you have many questions and would like some clarity on what was said. We cannot answer your questions but as individual schools and with each other, we will now begin to formulate a plan WHEN we receive Government guidance and we have not yet received any. Hopefully the guidance will provide some answers and we will notify you when we have received such guidance and had time to plan accordingly. We will continue to keep you updated so that you can plan, prepare and have sufficient time to do so.

We understand that following the broadcast last night, some of you may be expecting to go back to work. Unfortunately, until we receive more guidance, we will not be accepting more children in to our childcare provision. If you are already listed on your schools key worker list prior to this announcement, your place stills stands. However, until we know any more, we will not be able to take any more children. We know that this may cause you some anxiety and problems and we apologise for that, but we are making this decision based on the care of our current key worker children and staff in schools.

We therefore ask you to please restrain from phoning the school office or emailing members of staff to ask for more information; we only know what you know and no more – we also want clarity of the situation. We do not want to provide a knee jerk reaction until we know more.

Please accept our apologies for not being able to provide a clear plan forward at this moment in time. Please rest assured that we will respond and react with further guidance once it has been received and we have had time to formulate a plan which best meets the needs and the safety of the whole school community.

We thank you for your patience at this difficult time and ask you to respect that we are doing all we can at this moment.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Partnership of Dronfield Schools