



16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**CLOSURE OF YEAR 3 AND 4 BUBBLE**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have been in talks with representatives from the Standards Team at the County throughout the course of the late afternoon and in to the early evening and having carried out a lengthy review of the school's risk assessment, it was felt that the Year 3 and 4 bubble should close with immediate effect for the rest of the week on the grounds of safety. You may also recall that I had a number of discussions with a consultant who works for the county's Public Health team yesterday and they advised me to carry out the actions that were put in to place yesterday evening. I realise that this whole episode is very unprecedented and is like nothing else we have experienced before.

There are other schools that have been through a very similar situation to the one we are currently experiencing and for that reason I have every confidence we will come through this successfully.

Staff in Years 3 and 4 will be in close contact with myself over the next few days before I return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The office staff have been in regular contact with myself and other senior leaders ever since I have had to self-isolate and they will continue to do this through the rest of the week. Mrs Mattholie will deal with any safeguarding issues that could arise through the rest of the week, and again, she will liaise with myself throughout the week. Work for the children will be put on the Year 3 and 4 class webpages from tomorrow. Those families who don't have access to the internet, work packs will be made available from tomorrow and can be collected from the gate at Aycliffe Road from early afternoon. Children who receive Free School Meals should collect a packed lunch from 11:45am to 12:15pm from the entrance on Aycliffe Road.

I return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November when Years 3 4 and 5 are also scheduled to return. Whilst the timing of this letter is far from ideal, there has been a lot to consider before any final decisions could be made. I can only apologise for the extra inconvenience this situation has placed on you and your families. If for any reason you would like to discuss any of the content of this letter further please send an email to the office or directly to myself at:

[head@parkside.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@parkside.herts.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely

Headteacher