



PURSTON INFANT SCHOOL
Nunn's Lane, Featherstone
Tel: 01977 704344
www.purstoninfants.co.uk

18th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers.

Many thanks for your patience and understanding at this difficult time for us all. It is clear to see from the rapid rise in local and national cases that the new variant of Covid-19 is much more transmittable than before, which is very worrying for everyone. It is for this reason that schools have been told to limit the number of pupils in school to just children of keyworker parents and our most vulnerable pupils. Both the government and the local council have put out information recently about this situation.

Currently, in school we have a much larger number of children than during the first lockdown.

We have been overwhelmed with the number of requests we have had for school places. We have done our best to accommodate your requests, but are now in a position where we have a significant proportion of pupils on our list. With this number of children in school, we are really concerned that we have not significantly reduced the amount of contact between children, staff and their associated households.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to consider whether the place you have for your child in nursery is because you have absolutely no other option. If this is the case, then that is fine and we will try to provide a place. **If you can provide alternative childcare provision within your family bubble then you must, so that number of pupils in school is reduced, and hence the chance of infection is reduced.** We totally understand that these are very challenging times, and that many of you will be anxious about juggling work expectations, with child care commitments etc, but we need you to understand that the more children we have in school, the greater the chance of virus transmission and then the inevitable bubble closures and isolation period – not to mention the health of our pupils and staff, some of whom are vulnerable.

If you have absolutely no other option and are needing a place for your child in nursery, please email headteacher@purston.wakefield.sch.uk with the days you may require and the background as to why you need a place. This only applies to children in nursery, as following government guidelines the children in other year groups can only attend if they are critical workers, identified SEN or vulnerable. Could you please ensure you email your request before 4pm on Wednesday 20th January?

Yours sincerely

P Barnett
Headteacher

The Designated Senior Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection is the Headteacher, Philip Barnett, supported by the Assistant Headteacher, Alison Gascoyne and Learning Mentor, Kerry Dyas.
Social Care Direct 0345 8503 503 social_care_direct@wakefield.gov.uk

