



## Abbey School

an Academy within Nexus MAT

Little Common Lane, Kimberworth, Rotherham, S61 2RA

Tel: 01709 740074 Fax: 01709 553465

[abbeyschool@nexusmat.org](mailto:abbeyschool@nexusmat.org)

[www.abbeyschool.co](http://www.abbeyschool.co) [www.nexusMAT.org](http://www.nexusMAT.org)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Luci Windle

Head of School: Mr Wayne Askham



**INSPIRE...BELIEVE...ACHIEVE**

09/02/2021

### **End of Half Term update letter**

Dear Families,

I sincerely hope that this letter finds you safe and well. This Half Term seems to have flown by, yet the Christmas period seems to be such a long time ago. I hope those of you who have sent their child into school have felt you have some form of routine and 'normality' for your child. For those of you who have kept their child at home, thank you for your continued support, we truly admire how challenging this will have been particularly for those of you who are also working from home. We hope that for all the children whether they are at home or physically in school, they have enjoyed their learning opportunities and the development of the curriculum. It is most unusual to walk around school and seeing staff sat alone talking into their laptops during online live lessons so thank you to the huge amount of families who are joining in with these.

There has been many successes to celebrate this Half Term, despite the ongoing challenges we all face, in particular the very few positive cases of Covid we have had in school and the 2 weekly rota system that has meant that all children who have requested a place in school have been able to access one. We are always appreciative of the feedback that you give to us as it helps us all move forward as a school community. Please look out for the text message that gives you opportunity to let us know what is working well or what could be even better.

As it stands, as per the date of this letter, we are no further forward in when I can say school will be safe for all children. Although Government guidance is that special schools should be open for all, we are unable to offer a place for every child should they want to return, due to being unable to socially distance in classrooms. Therefore, after Half Term, we will continue with the 2-week review of the school and requests for placement, unless the guidance from the Government over the holidays changes. This means you will receive a text or email on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 for you to request a place or not for your child. It is vitally important that you respond each fortnight to this text as it helps leaders plan for pupil numbers and also support staff requesting places for their own children also. If you do not respond to the text we will assume your child will not need a physical place in school for those 2 weeks.

If your child experiences symptoms of Covid which results in a positive Covid test, please ensure you contact school via email [lwindle@nexusmat.org](mailto:lwindle@nexusmat.org) so that we can comply to the track and tracing programme and protect any children or staff they may have been in contact with.

We understand that the Government will make some form of announcement on the return of all children to schools, however we do not know what or how this will be done. Our intention is to continue with live teaching, paper-based learning and seesaw over the next Half Term for all children whether they are in school physically or based at home learning. If you do have your child at home with you and do not have access to an iPad, laptop or other electronic device, please do contact us as a matter of urgency so that we can loan the relevant equipment out.





## Abbey School

an Academy within Nexus MAT

Little Common Lane, Kimberworth, Rotherham, S61 2RA

Tel: 01709 740074 Fax: 01709 553465

[abbeyschool@nexusmat.org](mailto:abbeyschool@nexusmat.org)

[www.abbeyschool.co](http://www.abbeyschool.co) [www.nexusMAT.org](http://www.nexusMAT.org)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Luci Windle

Head of School: Mr Wayne Askham



**INSPIRE...BELIEVE...ACHIEVE**

Likewise if you require any other specialist equipment that may help your child at home please do ask your class team on your weekly phone call.

I genuinely hope that the whole nation has turned a corner over lockdown #3, and the rate at which the population is being vaccinated will bring back a sense of normality for us very soon. As always, if you need anything please pick up the phone and let the staff team help you. Everybody is dealing with the current pressures in their own way but sometimes talking to someone to offload or seek help can be the first step in making things better.

Take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs L Windle

Executive Headteacher

