

1 February 2021

Scargill CE Primary School Beech Lane West Hallam ILKESTON DE7 6GU

Head of School Mrs S Hallsworth Executive Head Mr M Hetherington

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Dear Parents,

The government last week announced that schools may be able to return next month and are reporting that infection rates across the country are levelling off. This is encouraging news and we need to do all we can to support this and make that return date a reality.

However we continue to have very high numbers of children in school. You may have been aware of some class closures in the last few weeks as a result of non covid related staffing issues. This is because our staffing is stretched, due to the large number of children we have in school. It leaves us with no flexibility to adequately cover classes when staff are absent. Unfortunately, unless our numbers reduce this pattern may continue.

I would like to remind you we are closed to all children except where we can act as a last port of call for children of critical workers- when they are not able to have the children at home. I would urge you all to keep your children at home if you can. Furthermore, if you have more than one child in school and either one of their bubbles closes or one of them is off ill (non-covid) we expect that any siblings are also kept at home.

I know this is a tough time for all families and home learning can be challenging for children and parents, but the smaller the number of children we have on site, the shorter we can make this closure.

Thank you for your continued support and we hope you can support us with this request.

Yours sincerely.

Malc Hetherington Executive Headteacher