



Glazebury CE Primary School & Nursery

Warrington Road, Glazebury,
Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 5LZ



Headteacher: Mrs K Mowbray BA Hons M.Ed

Telephone: 01925 763234
e-mail: glazebury_primary@warrington.gov.uk

Fax No 01925 766043
www.glazebury.eschools.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

Ref: Keyworkers in school

Firstly, to all keyworkers, thank you, for enabling our society to function at this difficult time.

I am writing to clarify the many questions that parents within our school community are asking and ensuring we are as clear as we can be. **Are numbers in school high?** Yes, we currently have 56% of children in school from Reception to Year 6. When Nursery is included this obviously is even greater.

Why are early years allowed in school? The government is very clear about Early Years settings such as ours and they are expected to be open and we fully support this at this time.

Do you have to limit the class to 15? There are no restrictions on numbers for schools, as in the last lockdown, so if you meet the criteria for a vulnerable child or critical (Key worker) you are entitled to attend school as part of the guidance set out by the DFE. We fully adhered to this at this time.

Can my child go part-time? Due to the high numbers of children in school, this is not manageable for staff, to constantly have to accommodate another variable into the teaching of our children both remotely and in class, this would dilute the educational offer made to children, staff have been consulted and we do not feel this is in the best interests for our children currently.

Why don't we have daily zoom lessons? The DFE and OFSTED have been very clear that each school community is different, and there are many factors to consider when providing our educational offer. We have many parents with siblings, that would have to access live zoom lessons at the same time using one device, some parents have agreed small timetable variations to co-inside with their own work commitments, this could not be accommodated without disadvantaging our children if we used zoom lessons. There are also safeguarding concerns for staff in managing zoom lessons fully, this is a small part of our considerations, and we feel that the balance of paper based activities and online software alongside uploaded lessons provide the best options for all.

Staff are working exceptionally hard to deliver both class lessons and remote learning, our expectations are clear and outlined in our remote policy. We recognise that being at home is difficult and we have been as flexible as we are allowed to be in the circumstances, providing a minimum of 3 hours learning is a statutory requirement and we are adhering to this.

However, I do need to point out that we can only open school, if we have the staffing to accommodate this. I am sure that you are all aware that the rate of infection **is high** within the Borough, compared to the national statistics, so we do ask that you please try and keep us all safe. With this in mind, ***we wish to remind you that your child should stay at home and access remote learning if it is appropriate to do so.*** This will lower the number of households mixing and reduce transmission of the virus. Even if you are a critical worker, ***if your child(ren) can remain at home rather than attend school, then they should.*** Please only use the offer of provision when it is crucial for you to undertake your critical role.

May I also raise that staff are putting your children first daily, we need to support the critical workers by being in and in doing so, we are asking all parents to respect our 2metres social distancing on school grounds and the wearing of face coverings. We are grateful for the vast majority that do and are helping us to keep safe.

Please contact school if you wish to alter your provision.

Kind Regards

Mrs K Mowbray

Head Teacher