



Website: www.richardson-dees.eschools.co.uk
Email: office@rdees.org.uk

Outstanding Governance Awards Finalists 2019



Chair of Governors: Mrs A Parker BA (Hons) FCIPD MIOD

High Street East
Wallsend
Tyne and Wear

Tel: 0191 263 8139

NE28 7RT

Friday 8th January

Dear parents and carers,

I just wanted to update you with what has happened in school during this very difficult and challenging week for us all.

On Monday, you will recall that we had reasserted our position to remain open to everyone only for the lockdown to be announced that evening and the directive sent out that all schools should close except to vulnerable children and those children of key workers. Whilst the anxiety around the pandemic is as high as ever, the situation in school is different to what it was back in March.

- Revised guidance means that whereas we had around 12-15 children each day during the first lockdown, we now have 50 children in school spread across 8 bubbles (including nursery as the government said that all childcare settings and nurseries should remain open).
- Unlike during the first lockdown, where we worked on a rota system, staff are in every day to ensure that we not only are able to teach the children in school in their own classes but we are able to provide a strong remote learning offer *and* be available in every way we can be for all of our families.
- Previously, we were distributing free school meal vouchers but now it's hampers of food which are available in school every Tuesday. This decision has been taken by the Local Authority not the school.
- Last time, home learning was paper-based but this time our remote learning is being done online using Seesaw.

We recognise how challenging isolating at home can be but the work we are providing children online will not only help keep them on track with their learning but will ensure they remain connected to school and all the people here who care for them and miss them already.

Please do get in touch if you are having problems accessing Seesaw. Let us know if you have internet issues or if you don't have an appropriate device to work on. We will do everything we can to help get you set up.

Thank you to all of those families who have already engaged with Seesaw this week, for the positive comments you have shared and for your continued resilience and understanding.

I hope you are keeping safe and wish you all well as ever.

Kind regards,
Mr W Myers

