

GEORGE ROMNEY JUNIOR SCHOOL



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Dear parents, carers and families,

It has only been two days since I last wrote to you, clarifying our expectations about school this week; however, a lot has happened in those two days...

As you will have read, watched and heard across many media platforms, Cumbria is facing its biggest challenge since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic. New information from a study made by Cumbria Public Health was shared yesterday and new current infection rates, rates of increase (or transmission) and the capacity of the NHS to deal with the situation are now in a critical state.

Colin Cox, with the support of Cumbria County Council requested a 'firebreak' for all primary schools across Cumbria i.e. delaying face-to-face learning for up to a fortnight to reduce the risk across our communities. This has been declined initially by the DfE but will be re-challenged again today.

Uncertainty and a lack of forward planning brings additional stress, anxiety and worry to everyone. You know how much we value your child's learning and interactions with their peers and you know as a school we worked tirelessly to ensure no disruption to learning from September to December last term.

After reviewing the current situation with staff and governors, considering the current available staffing levels and the risks to our children and our school community, we have decided to move to remote, home learning for this week. We will review the situation on **Friday 8th January** and inform you of our decision for the following week then.

We will offer in-school support for learning for vulnerable and key worker children from **Tuesday 5th January**. Please contact me in writing directly today using head@grjs.cumbria.sch.uk if you need provision for your child tomorrow or any other day this week.



I can only apologise for the disruption and inconvenience this action will cause. As a father of three girls, I am acutely aware of how difficult these times are for children and their families.

Please do not hesitate to contact me today with any further issues or questions you may have. I look forward to working with you all this term and throughout the new year.

Take care, stay safe,

DR

David Reddy
(Headteacher)

