1st January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the Ministers Announcement yesterday, Thursday 31st December 2020 the EA have advised the school today, Friday 1st January 2021, that the first day of the Term should be a Staff Day.

Arvalee School will take this day to review mitigation procedures, ensure staffing arrangements after the Christmas break and plan for pupils who can/wish to work from home.

The School will **open on Tuesday 5th January 2021** for pupils and start the new year. It is hoped that this additional day of planning will help make the opening successful.

If due to the pandemic and the January lockdown you feel your child could learn from home, please inform your teacher on Monday 4th January. Work will be prepared and sent home, arrangements for home learning will be developed as the school assesses the numbers involved.

All arrangements and actions relating to positive test results are the same as when we operated in Term 1 in line with PHA advice. In line with that advice the School can reaffirm the following

1. Transport and school dinners will be available on and from Tuesday 5th January.
2. The school is planning to remain open for all the pupils under the guidance of PHA.
3. The Teacher will provide home learning packs through either remote access or practical resource packs sent home for any pupils that require this support in January.
4. ICT resources can be requested from the school and assessed for a loan agreement which can be arranged.
5. Other opportunities for remote learning classes will be explored depending on the needs of the child and the number of pupils attending school.

Currently the plan is based on ensuring that all pupils can come to school, however please beware that medical cover, personal care and safety depends on appropriate staff being available. This can change on a daily basis and although the school tries to plan and work to minimize this disruption, the school may still need to work closely with you as the parent/carer to overcome the issues.

The school will make every effort to ensure that every child has their needs met and we would ask for parents and carers to be patient as the school tries to work through each challenge as and if it gets presented.

I wish you a happy safe New Year.

Jonathan Gray

Principal