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3rd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all.

I hope you have had a safe and healthy Christmas break.

I am writing to keep you updated with the developing news about schools opening for the new term. My intention is to keep you informed from the information I receive from both the DfE and the Trust whilst attempting to prevent any misleading social media posts from causing unnecessary stress or anxiety.

I can confirm that the NAHT (Head Teachers' Union) has initiated a legal challenge to the government's decision to reopen schools. Also, that the NUE (England's largest teaching union) had advised members of their legal right not to return to work amid health and safety fears.

The government remains committed to prioritising education and keeping schools open and as such is directing schools to open from January 4th 2021. They are strongly of the belief that schools remain safe environments and we are following their clear health & safety guidelines at all times. This of course means that we will welcome you and your children back from **Tuesday January 5th**.

Our school has been thoroughly cleaned and quarantined over the break, and our staff protocols and Covid-19 safety procedures have all been thoroughly reviewed meaning that we are confident to provide your child with the safest learning environment we can during this difficult time.

I would urge you, however, to have some contingency childcare plans in place just in case of any short notice change to these directions or indeed, in case of any Bubble closures due to a positive case of Coronavirus or due to staff shortages.

I will keep you updated as soon as any new information is received and look forward to seeing you all back at Glapton Academy for 2021.

A reminder of school gate procedures will be sent in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C Hurst Headteacher