



# Wallace Fields Infant School & Nursery

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*"High achievement and success with a smile."*



26th November 2020

Dear Wallace Fields Infant School & Nursery Parents and Carers,

## **PETITION TO FULLY FUND SCHOOLS FOR COVID-19 COSTS AND PROVIDE RELIEF FOR LOSS OF INCOME**

We hope this letter finds both you and your family well. We are sure, like us, you were awaiting the Government announcements with anticipation regarding an easing of the restrictions for the Christmas period to enable us all to see loved ones from whom we may have been separated from this year, if only for a few days.

Today we are writing to bring to your attention a petition that is currently gathering momentum, highlighting the huge costs that schools and other educational establishments have been forced to incur as a direct result of the Covid 19 pandemic. Since the initial lockdown in March, all schools have simultaneously lost vast amounts of income by being unable to let premises and being forced to close in-house childcare and nursery provisions. Unlike the commercial sector, schools are not eligible for furlough and other grants to compensate for these losses and in addition they have been forced to take on even further expenditure costs such as supply staff, additional cleaning staff, cleaning materials, enhancements to ventilation systems, handwashing stations, improved IT and additional training to enable remote learning.

As you may be aware, during the first Government enforced lockdown in the spring of this year, the extended learning provisions (Shining Stars Nursery and KidsQuest) here at WFIS & Nursery were left with no alternative but to incur £60,000 of lost revenue over the final two terms of the academic year. This financial situation not only caused a negative legacy for Wallace Fields Infant School & Nursery, but the financial repercussions for all early years and school settings nationwide were huge, resulting in some nurseries being forced to make redundancies or even close their business due to loss of income. You may also know that during the previous and any subsequent closure of our school, all our staff remain working, albeit remotely for those who have been instructed to remain at home. Therefore there is no reduction in expenditure for the school for our staff even when they are working from home. Furthermore, many of our overheads are front loaded at the beginning of the academic year such as our IT infrastructure (e.g. Reading Eggs, Bug Club, Tapestry, Arbor etc) and service level agreements covering building and other associated contracts. Hence whether the school is closed or open the daily costs incurred associated with running our establishments are virtually the same (apart from minor savings in day to day resources such as paint and paper).

It is with all this in mind that we kindly ask parents to register their name on the petition by [clicking here](#) in order for the Government to further consider the plight of schools at this time.

We would like to thank you all for taking the time to read this letter and we sincerely hope that you will feel able to further support us by signing the petition.

Yours sincerely

*Nicky Mann*     *Jamie Hallums*

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**Co Headteachers**