

# ***Our Rainbow Children***

***A poem by the staff at Wath Central.***



**When this is over, may we never again take for granted:**

The freedom to go where I want, when I want and with who I want.  
The gentle touch of a loved one's embrace and holding our loved ones close.  
Meeting friends for a giggle, coffee, cake and a chat.  
Enjoying a cup of tea with my Nan!

The laughter and general hum of conversation in a cafe, the classroom, but mostly in my mum's kitchen.  
The smiles of the Central children as they come into school in a morning.  
Family being able to visit our daughter when she arrives.

**When this is over, may we never again take for granted:**

The security of routines – the day as we know it.  
The ability to plan ahead and look forward to things I want to do.  
Each day of the week being different and unique . . . that Friday feeling, the anticipation and excitement  
for the weekend.  
Never again wishing the week away, saying, "Is it Friday yet?"

Because every day is a good day.

Well stocked shelves in supermarkets and the license to browse in a shopping centre.  
All the simple little things that we don't miss until they're gone – flour, soap and toilet roll!

**When this is over, may we never again take for granted:**

Nature at its finest, blossom blooming, leaves unfurling  
and the joyful clarity of birdsong in the stillness.  
A delicate carpet of bluebells in the woods, its heavenly scent.  
Looking up to a canopy of trees reaching for the purity of endless blue skies.  
A visit to the beach watching the ceaseless, unchanging tide, splashing in the cold waves and feeling soft  
sand between my toes.

**When this is over, may we never again take for granted:**

Visits to our favourite places, wherever we find our 'happy'.  
Immersing ourselves in the magic of a play, show, gig or festival.  
Allowing ourselves to escape, and transform into a new space.  
The adrenaline surge and sheer joy of watching or playing sport  
The roar of a stadium  
Going to the hairdresser and having precious time to relax.  
Playing on the swings at the park when the weather is nice.



**When this ends, may we find a new world, may we learn to:**

Slow down and be patient

Stop and take your time sometimes - the list can wait until tomorrow.

Never take colleagues for granted

Respect all workers, all professions and value everyone's contributions to the world.

Appreciate the beauty around us - value the nature we have on our doorstep.

Take time, listen intently, talk about what we hear.

Lift up our head and look closely.

Enjoy exercise and the outdoors again.

Walk or cycle as we've done, and continue to use the car less

Say yes to more things; do more, see more.

Keep our family and friends close, look after our health and well-being.

Value the power of community spirit, look out for one another while maintaining a moral compass

Remember the community coming together, not the lockdown.

Appreciate the little things in life; a smile, a greeting.

Stop our lives long enough to reflect off one other.



**For the future, it is our hope that**

*We never again take life for granted.*

*We recognise that if we have each other, in fact, we have everything we truly need.*

*Children remember this year, not as a scary time, but as one of the best in their childhood.*

*And that when we see a rainbow, we will stop, reflect and smile, remembering how far we've come.*

*We rise up, stronger, wiser and with greater empathy.*

***- Until we meet again, our Rainbow Children.***