



Make a difference. Be outstanding.

7th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all well and keeping safe during these once again challenging times. I think deep down we all knew that the Prime Minister would call this. I just wish that he had given us a lot more notice to put things into place. Apologies in advance for the length of this letter, however I feel it is important to be as open and transparent with you all and share information which you will find useful.

As you know we are required to offer onsite provision for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to safeguard their welfare and ensure essential services can continue to function.

We learnt a lot from the last lockdown and this time the key focus is around remote learning. A full curriculum (where possible) will be provided in time and each class teacher is responsible for their class, wherever they are working from home or in school.

Communication/Protocols

Teachers times and availability. Staff will only reply to communications between the hours of 8.30am and 4.00 p.m. Please do not email at unsociable times. Many teachers have also got their own children and families to get back to. They also need a work life balance!

Working together to get this right again. We have survived two lockdowns before and we can do it again! The school is always here to help and we will do our best to support in every way we can. Please do not hesitate to call the school office or email and we'll get back to you as soon as possible. This is a large primary school with over 600 children. Please bear with us, we are only human!

Social Media

As you know, we use Facebook as a communication platform to get messages out quickly and to celebrate the great things children and this school community are doing. Please can I remind you that it is NOT a forum to add negative comments, especially about staff. It is no-ones' fault that we are in this position and we are working hard and trying our best to support all children and families. It has been an incredibly stressful time, particularly for the teaching and support staff, who have had to quickly adapt to the new virtual work place, as well as managing the pupils in school again. Please be kind to each other.

Arrangements for Critical workers and Vulnerable Children – In school provision

The school day will be from 9:00 – 15:00 but the gates will be open from 8.50 to avoid congestion outside.

Headteacher: Miss K Stocks B.Ed (hons), NPQH

Deputy Headteachers: Mrs A P Venugopal M.Ed, NPQH
Mrs K Dixon B.Ed (hons), NPQSL

Proud to be part of the **UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER** ACADEMY TRUST





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Children will be taught in their current Year Groups and based in small groups in order that we can follow the national curriculum and ensure that the learning is pitched correctly. Children will remain in these small bubbles until the foreseeable future and will be mainly supervised by teaching assistants with some class teachers also onsite.

Children will need to continue to wear their normal school uniform and please ensure that they have plenty of layers as it is colder in school with the windows open!

Hot School Dinners will continue to be available for as long as Caterlink staff remain on site and are able to provide them.

Unfortunately, the milk and fresh fruit deliveries have been cancelled by the government who provide it, therefore please can you ensure that your child has a healthy snack (contains no nuts) or piece of fruit for break time.

Reading books will continue to be sent home as normal, for the children in school.

Arrangements for Online 'Microsoft Teams' Learning – At home provision

I'm sure your child's teacher has already made contact with you to make you aware of the online timetable and remote learning expectations. The government have made it very clear that all children at home should engage with the remote learning planned and delivered. Registers will be taken every day to ensure that your child is accessing the daily work. In our school there will be a mixture of live lessons which the teachers will lead on. This includes pre-recorded videos from Arundel Court Staff, BBC Bitesize programmes and resources from the Oak Academy.

Please note: All live lessons will be recorded and uploaded so that they can be watched later to ensure that where devices are being used for other purposes, the learning is not missed.

We have also uploaded onto the school's website some additional guides on how to use Microsoft teams, together with online notes found on the website. If you really get stuck, then Mr Preston can be on hand to help you and your child.

Please note that the work that your child will be completing at home will be the same as the work being completed in class.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to free school meals, as stated by Boris Johnson, schools will be able to continue to support families with food. We are still waiting for confirmation of whether this will be in the form of food vouchers or hampers.

Books or stationery

If you would like any exercise books or stationery to support your child with their online learning at home, we have a supply of brand-new books and stationery that can be collected if needed.

If you would like this, please email the Admin Team or the class teacher.

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Covid Tests

If you are struggling to access a COVID 19 test, we do have a limited supply available which we can deliver to you. If you need one, please contact the School office.

I am aware this is a stressful time for you all and want you to know we are always here for you. Please do not hesitate to call the school if you need any help with your child's online learning.

Thank you for your never-ending support. Look after yourselves and keep safe.

Regards,

Mrs Karen Stocks
Headteacher

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