



Include, Create, Perform

Newsletter

1st April 2021

Return to Full-Time School

The last four weeks have been really positive in school and I know from speaking to staff, children, parents and carers that everyone is happy to be back. I am extremely impressed with all of the children and I am very proud of how hard they are working.

I know that many parents and carers will be worried about the amount of time the pupils have not been in school and will be reading a lot in the media about 'lost learning', that pupils have 'fallen behind' and the need for them to 'catch up'. Although, during the recent lockdown, the vast majority of our pupils engaged fully in remote learning, as a staff we are aware of how much learning the children have lost during both school closures. However, we know that consistent excellent classroom teaching will help improve outcomes for all of the pupils. Therefore, children must have an excellent attendance record to help them 'catch up'.

You may have heard about the government money that is targeted towards supporting schools post Covid-19. We will use this funding to provide targeted academic support, create additional smaller classes and deliver a range of literacy focused interventions for those pupils who we identify need it. Our strategy, in line with government guidance, is targeted towards our most disadvantaged and vulnerable learners as we know that, for many, during lockdown, they will have struggled disproportionately when compared to their peers.

Several parents have asked how they can support their child at home. We would suggest the following...

- Encourage regular reading of both fiction and nonfiction books at home. The more they read, the more they learn!
- Discuss home learning with your child and ensure time is set aside for them to complete their homework to the best of their abilities.
- Continue to use the online platforms, like Mathletics, that pupils have used during lockdown.

Over the last 12 months, children have also missed hundreds of opportunities to socialise with their friends and peers. Therefore, after Easter, the children in all of the classes will return to studying a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to create opportunities for the pupils to enjoy a range of activities that allow the children to work together. We believe this will lead to improved mental-health for all learners.

Contact Tracing over the Easter Holidays

Parents and carers should inform the school of a positive coronavirus case for a pupil if the pupil developed symptoms within 48 hours of being at school. Therefore if your child develops symptoms on Friday the 2nd or Saturday the 3rd April – please contact the school by visiting the school website and leaving a message on the 'contact' page. This could lead to bubbles of children being instructed to isolate during the holidays. If this happens the school will contact you by sending text message to your child's number 1 priority contact.

If your child develops symptoms on the 4th April or after guidance will be provided by the NHS Test and Trace facility.

If your child is unable to attend school on the 19th April because they have coronavirus and still have to isolate or they have to isolate because they are deemed to be a close contact with someone who has coronavirus then please let the school know on the 19th April.

Face Coverings

Staff and parents have noticed that fewer and fewer parents are wearing masks in the school playground – to help all of the school community stay safe the school is advising parents and carers to wear masks in the school playground.