

Monday 27 April 2020

COVID19



Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

Thank you so much for following the Government advice which is, if you can keep your child at home, whether you are a key worker or not, then that is what you should do.

I am pleased to say that I have achieved my aim and we now have very few children and staff in school. This is protecting everyone by reducing the risk of exposure to and the spread of the virus.

There continues to be approx. 6 children accessing school each day, most of which have key worker parents and a very small minority are children who need to be in school due to their vulnerability.

School will be open during the May Bank Holidays, including what would have been the May Half-term holiday.

The staff and I are continuing to work on a 4-week rota basis, which involves working onsite for one week and working from home for 3 weeks, during the working from home weeks staff will be taking their holiday leave.

There is a member of the senior leadership team onsite each day and a member of the business support team in the main office should you need to get in touch.

Class teachers are contactable during their time onsite and whilst working from home but aren't available during their holiday time. Class teachers will let you know when they are on holiday, during teacher holiday periods please feel free to contact a member of the business support team in the school office, who will be happy to help.

Health & safety precautions in school:

We continue to implement stringent Health and Safety practices and the building is as sanitised and clean as possible.

All staff and children continue to have their temperature checked on arrival into school each day.

All staff and children are following strict handwashing routines, washing hands on arrival to school before entering class, before and after eating & drinking, after using the bathroom, after returning from playtime and after each activity.

Any staff or child showing COVID 19 symptoms will be isolated until they can leave or be collected.



Headteacher: Mr Kieran Welsh Harrington Road, Chorley, PR7 1JZ. **Tel:** 01257 262227

Email: head@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk **Website:** www.astleypark.lancs.sch.uk



Any staff or child showing symptoms of any illness or ailment e.g. feeling / being sick, diarrhoea, coughs & colds will need to leave / be collected ASAP and remain offsite for 14 days.

All staff continue to carry out thorough and regular cleaning and sanitising of their class / office / base.

Social Distancing in school:

School is following the DFE Guidance on Social Distancing in Education Settings.

Where possible and practical all staff and children are maintaining the recommended social distance.

Individual Risk-assessments

Each child has had an individual risk-assessment completed, this has been done in partnership with parents & carers and social workers, if a child has one. The risk -assessment allows us to identify which children need to be in school despite the risks this could pose to their own health and the health of their family. It is only in exceptional cases that children are risk-assessed, as needing a place in school, to safeguard themselves or their families. The risk assessment is reviewed every two weeks, using information that has been shared with us from parents themselves, social workers, members of the pupil support team and class teachers. If you would like to discuss your situation, please let your child's class teacher know and a member of the pupil support team will be in touch.

Parents & Carers of children who are entitled to Free School Meals:

You should have all now been issued with your E-vouchers, thank you for your patience, this was an extremely challenging time for the business support team, as the initial set-up was very complicated and the website could not handle the volume of requests that were being submitted nationally. They did a remarkable job and I am pleased say that issues have been resolved and it should be much easier going forward.





Keeping in touch:

I am missing all the children so much; I am loving watching all the videos and photos you have been sending to your class teachers. They regularly forward them to me and it's great seeing what everyone is up to. I hope that my weekly Star of the Week video is going some way to enable them children to still feel connected to school. If you haven't already subscribed please check out the Astley Park School, Learning from Home YouTube Channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1y05NXm4WoqWfaor5v0Mhw>

The staff have been working incredibly hard on putting together a range of learning from home videos for you to do with your children. The videos are there for you to use if you need to, please don't feel under pressure to complete all the activities, the main aim is to give you some ideas and for you to have as much fun as possible!

Thank you all so much for your continued support and understanding.

Kindest regards,

Keep Safe 

K Welsh

Mr Welsh

