



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents,

As I am sure you will appreciate, we are currently dealing with a complex and rapidly changing situation. My first priority will always be the health and safety of the pupils and staff in our school. Now more than ever this remains our primary focus.

Already in school we have:

- Increased handwashing for pupils and had the support of Ms Sandra Fender (who is a qualified nurse) to teach the children the correct handwashing methods.
- Increased cleaning for key areas such as surfaces, keypads, door handles, phones etc. – using stronger, recommended cleaning solutions. We are regularly disinfecting toys such as Lego and restricting the use of this type of resource to avoid cross contamination.
- We have removed provision for sand and water play as well as play dough.
- We have been offering support to pupils demonstrating anxiety

We will be introducing new measures:

- Water: Children will need to bring water bottles into school as we are removing access to the drinking fountains. We will refill bottles for pupils if needed.
- Fruit tuck: We will be purchasing ‘peeled’ fruit to sell at fruit tuck. If parents send in fruit this will not be handled by staff.

We will be cancelling:

All social gatherings that involve outside visitors up until Easter (this will be reviewed regularly)

- Coffee morning
- Parent’s evenings
- ALN parent’s meetings
- Class 4 assembly
- The Showcase event
- Parent Council meeting
- Easter Bingo
- All staff training and courses

If we close:

We may close following government direction or due to unmanageable staff absences.

This is not a holiday and pupils will need to continue their daily education routine. Staff are preparing a home learning pack for each class. This will be a mix of online and practical activities.

We will be using the following online platforms, for which passwords will be re-issued this week:

- Reading daily – ‘Oxford Reading Buddies’, this includes reading books that have been set at your child’s level with comprehension questions and games to accompany each text.
- Maths daily – ‘Active Learn’, this includes games and resources that have been set at your child’s level that reflects what they are learning in class.
- Topic daily – ‘HWB’, this allows access to hundreds of activities as well as Encyclopaedia Britannica, Office 365 and the pupils email addresses.

Both the maths and reading platforms will be reviewed daily by staff, who will be able to see who has accessed the material. They will then allocate new activities if required.

- Additional topic activities will be suggested by individual staff along with practical activities that can be completed off-line.
- We will also include PSE activities to support wellbeing and reduce anxiety.

If you are self-isolating:

- If you are self-isolating whilst we are open, you can access the reading and maths platforms on a daily basis and staff will monitor their use and update the pupils work.

Attendance and wellbeing have advised us on how to record absences at this time:

- Confirmed case of COVID-19: Code I
- Travel by a pupil from listed countries in the past 14 days: Code C
- Self-isolation in line with WG guidelines: Code C
- Where pupils self-isolate not in keeping with WG guidance: Code O
- In the event that school closures are enforced: Code Y

Code O: Unauthorised absence/ Code C: Other authorised absence/ Code I: Illness.

*I will be using my head teacher's discretion at this time and will **NOT** be issuing any Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for unauthorised absences.*

Communication:

- Social media: The wellbeing of the pupils and yourselves are at the heart of our philosophy, at this time of uncertainty the wellbeing of my staff also takes high priority. To reduce anxiety amongst all stakeholders of the school, we have taken the decision to suspend the Parent Council Face Book page. All formal school statements will be posted on our school Facebook Page, Twitter, our website or on Our School App.
- Email: If parents need to contact the out of school hours please use the 'Contact Us' button on the school website – www.lanhariprimary.com. We will aim to answer your emails within 24 hours.

This is an entirely unprecedented situation and we are following official advice from the government and the NHS. This advice is being added to on a daily basis and we are monitoring and responding to that as it's published.

Whilst I appreciate that there will be a wide range of different views about how we should be responding and what action should be taken, I hope you will appreciate that I am duty bound to follow the official advice from the government.

Thank you for your support at this time.

Yours Sincerely,

Emma Coates
Head Teacher

Colin Lewis
Chair of Governors