



Chestnuts Primary School

'Encourage, Enable, Empower'

Tel: 01908 373748
email: office@chestnuts.milton-keynes.sch.uk
www.chestnutsprimaryschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss Becky Skillings
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Katie Robins
Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Sam Sear & Mrs Nicola Tearle

6 January 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

You will no doubt be aware that the whole country is now in lockdown and schools will be adjusting the way they are delivering learning until February half term at least. We have worked hard over the last few days to ensure that we are providing all children with a broad curriculum and live teaching opportunities both in school and at home. Thank you for your patience with the technical issues over the last few days but, overall, I am incredibly proud of how well the children (and you) have engaged with learning, and with the effort the staff team has gone to, to ensure your children keep learning.

The purpose of the lockdown and closing schools is to reduce the number of contacts that any of us have with others to lower the rate of transmission. Although we are only open to the children of critical workers and those identified in the government's definition of 'vulnerable', we still have quite large numbers of children in school. If your child is currently attending school as it was necessary when we were in Tier 4 and your circumstances have changed because of the full lockdown so that you are now not attending work and are able to keep your child at home, we would support you in changing your provision. Please do let us know if you no longer need a place in school.

Also, we have asked that the children of critical workers attend school on a full-time basis. This was to ensure continuity in their learning. Now we have found our feet, we have been able to ensure that the learning taking place at home absolutely mirrors the learning in school. Therefore, if you are a critical worker and do not need your child to be in school every day as you do not work every day, I would ask that they remain at home and access home learning. If they carry out the home learning tasks on the days that they are at home, they will not be disadvantaged when attending school for occasional days. It will also not make the work of the teaching staff in school harder as they will not be trying to fill the gaps created by missing a day in school. If they do not take part in home learning, we will call you to encourage them to do so. This would also help us to reduce the number of children mixing in bubbles and therefore minimise the risk of them bringing the virus home to you and your family.



Inspiring Futures
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Chestnuts Primary School is part of Inspiring Futures through Learning, a company Limited by Guarantee and registered to Fairfield Primary School

Apollo Avenue Fairfields, Milton Keynes MK11 4BA. The company number is 07698904 and is registered in England.



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Obviously, we will continue to follow our safe COVID practice of not allowing bubbles to mix, but with 1 in 3 people being known to be asymptomatic, the chances are that we will have further cases, whilst the numbers in Milton Keynes are so high. The less pupils we have in school, the safer we are as a whole school community and the risk of the virus coming home is reduced. The provision of critical worker and vulnerable places will, of course, continue to be available to those that need it.

Yours faithfully,

Becky Skillings
Headteacher



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Global Learning
programme



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