



# Chestnuts Primary School

'Encourage, Enable, Empower'

Tel: 01908 373748

email: [office@chestnuts.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:office@chestnuts.milton-keynes.sch.uk)

[www.chestnutsprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.chestnutsprimaryschool.co.uk)

Headteacher: Miss Becky Skillings

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Katie Robins

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Sam Sear & Mrs Nicola Tearle

11 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The start of our new normal has been fantastic. It has taken some getting used to for all parties, I'm sure. For staff, no Zoom, full classrooms and all the noise that comes with large groups of children is taking some getting used to. I'm sure the quiet at home has been welcomed but also taken some time to get used to again. And as for the children, they are just phenomenal! Their positivity and enthusiasm just astounds me. We are so pleased to have all children who are allowed to return back in school. Below is some information regarding our plans moving forward and a few reminders for you.

## Masks

Please can I remind you of our request that adults wear masks when picking up their children. If you are exempt, then please do wear your lanyard so we are aware. Also, please don't be offended if we don't engage in conversation with you at the gate – we absolutely want to keep ourselves safe so we can keep coming to school without adding to the risk of closing the bubbles and sending children home again.

## Current remote learning plan

There will be times still when children are well but are unable to come to school due to being identified as a close contact of someone testing positive for Covid. As we have moved on with the understanding of remote learning, we have discovered many new skills and techniques to keep children engaged when they are at home.

This week we have been trialling, with a few children who are in isolation at present, how we could fully incorporate them into the classroom virtually. This has been incredibly successful from Year 1 to Year 6 and so I will be rolling this out across the school for all children who are well, but are unable to access school.

When you notify us that your child will not be attending school due to Covid, we will notify the class teacher. They will then post a link to Google Meet in the Google Classroom. Instructions for Google Meet are attached to this letter but, quite simply, your child will join their class from home via their phone, tablet, laptop or chrome book. They will be able to see and hear their own teacher, teaching



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Fairfields Primary School

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



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the whole class. They will be able to participate in class discussions, answer questions posed by the teacher and have conversations with their peers.

Our aim is to ensure that no child in Year 1 to Year 6 misses out on any more learning due to Covid and the fantastic opportunities for peer support are able to continue. There will be times when the teacher will take their laptop to a group in the classroom and allow the child at home to discuss the learning with their peers in the classroom. This will mean the children in school will be visible on screen to the child at home and vice versa.

If you would prefer your child not to be given the laptop to talk to their peers when in school, please do let the school office know.

We will also be sending home another exercise book for you to keep safe, just in case we have to close a bubble again.

## Returning equipment and work

Thank you to all of you who have sent back the equipment we loaned you to support your child's learning at home. If you haven't yet done so, please could I ask that you do this tomorrow. We would also love to see any work that was completed during the lockdown period. So, if you have your red book or pieces of work at home, please send these in for class teachers to see.

Thank you for your ongoing support with our remote learning plans and our efforts to keep everyone as safe as we can during this period.

Yours faithfully,

Becky Skillings  
Headteacher



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