

School Arrangements for Lockdown

Key and critical worker children

All parents who have submitted requests today (unless we have phoned you) have been allocated a place for their child starting from tomorrow. We appreciate that many of you do not need a place every day and that your requirements change weekly. Please can you message your child's class teacher each Friday so that we know in advance which days to expect them on. If we do not receive your request each week, we may not be able to provide a place.

Teachers have a list of all the forms we have received today and if your child is not on the list, they will ask you to pop to the office so we can ascertain if we have space.

Tablets

We are now out of loan devices but are hopeful we may be able to get more through Delta. We have a waiting list started in the office for pupils needing a device. If you no longer require your loan device, please return it back to school so that it can be allocated to another child. In the meantime, a phone will work – just not as efficiently.

Zoom Protocols

At 10am tomorrow morning, each class will hold a welcome zoom and the links will be posted out via Seesaw. It is vital that you have access to Seesaw over the coming weeks so please let the office know if you need any help with this. This zoom will be an opportunity for your child to say hi to their teacher, have a quick chat with their friends and hopefully iron out any technical issues – parents you are welcome to join this call too if you wish.

After that, your class teacher will send a new link out giving you the time for the first lesson zoom.

Children will be expected to be fully dressed (no pjs please!) and not eating meals or snacks during any of their zoom calls. They may have a drink with them.

High levels of behaviour will be expected by staff and your child may be removed from a lesson if they are disrupting it.

Children have been provided with exercise books to complete any activities in – these should be treated with the same care and respect as their school books are. We will be asking for these in at the end of the lockdown period to celebrate the work completed in them.

I would like to remind all parents/carers and pupils that the filming of any zoom lesson is strictly forbidden and nothing should be uploaded to any social media sites. If we are made aware of any breaches, your child will no longer be permitted to join the zoom lessons.

It would be helpful if your child could sit on a chair (with a table if possible) in a quieter area of the house. Parents should not be needed on the zoom calls particularly for the older children. We appreciate that younger children may need some support from an adult.

Please ensure you have reminded your children about these expectations.

Please be patient with us in the first few days. It is highly likely that we will experience technical issues and other unforeseen events! Our aim is to be fully functioning by Monday 11th January.

Remote Learning

If your child is not in school, we do expect full attendance on zoom lessons from all children at home. A register will be taken and we ask that you call the office as normal if your child is unwell that day and unable to attend zoom lessons. If you are experiencing any technical issues, please liaise with your child's teacher and they will get back to you as soon as they can.

Lunches

A hot and cold option will be available for all children in school but these must be pre-ordered and paid for via ParentPay. Children can choose on the day which option they would like. Any orders already completed on ParentPay will still stand but what they have to eat may differ. If you have pre-ordered lunches but your child won't be in school, be reassured that we will be working with ParentPay to arrange credits/refunds where applicable. However, please be patient with us as this may take some time.

Children may also bring in a packed lunch from home if they prefer.

Free school meals

I have yet to receive guidance on how this will operate but as soon as I do I will let you know.

Faulding Way Gate

This will be open as usual.

Playgrounds

Please ensure you are still following the one-way system. A reminder too, that face coverings are mandatory on the playground and that only one adult should be accompanying your child to school. Please also remember to keep your distance.

Technical issues

As with most technology, there may be occasions where it doesn't quite work as it should do. Teachers may then need to abort a lesson until the issue can be fixed. If this happens, they will communicate with you via Seesaw to keep you updated.

Zoom links

These will be sent out by each class teacher shortly before each lesson via Seesaw only.

Friday Afternoons

Each Friday afternoon will be the designated PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time for teachers. For this session, independent work will be posted on Seesaw for your child to access. Your child's teacher will not be available during this session.

Final note

There will probably be other information I will need to share with you in the coming days but for now, this gets us to Friday! Please contact your child's teacher via Seesaw if you have any issues or queries in the first instance. This is all new and strange for everyone but we thank you for your support, patience, understanding and good will – we are definitely all in this together! ☺ An updated newsletter will be sent out on Friday.