



1st May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you are all well. A huge well done and thank you for all the home learning tasks and fun activities you are doing at home to keep your child busy. As a parent I do appreciate how hard it is. We are all having mixed emotions every day and all we can suggest is keeping doing what you can! Little and often with the learning tasks. Keep some routines going and try to plan family things to do too. Arts / crafts / baking/ board games/ walks / cycling etc.

The Government guidance continues to be the same, however we are expecting further updates next week. Schools are in continual discussion with the Local Authority who are liaising with the Department for Education regarding the transition from lockdown and phased returns.

We cannot say how this will look or what we will be doing, as we need to wait for the scientific evidence and strategy from the Government.

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter schools have been requested to 'where possible' remain open for two groups of children. We have risk assessed all the children and continue to reflect on the risk assessments. Therefore, the children that are offered Childcare Provision are minimal. However, over the coming weeks this may increase. We kindly ask you to continue to work with us.

We will not suddenly open school to all! It will be very different and I am already working on a range of plans and ideas for this.

Thank you for the pictures and home learning examples. I hope you enjoy this week's celebration video. Try to sit down with your child, have a brew and take 5 minutes to watch it together.

Also check out the Zones and Thrive area of our webpage - <https://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/zones-and-thrive/>

There are really good examples of managing emotions in these tricky times. This will be developed weekly!

We do want you to be honest with us in your daily call, and if things are tough speak up. We will always look at what we can do. However, we will be informed by our risk assessment procedures to keep everyone safe.

Keep going! You are doing an amazing job and remember we are all entitled to have our 'off' days. We really do want to maintain that connection, make you smile and try to keep things positive. We are all having those days where we are frustrated, fed up, anxious, annoyed and the days where we don't want to do a lot. That is ok! Do what you can and keep talking to us.

Please take care, stay safe, follow the guidance (as I know you are) and remember even if the doors are not open we are still at the end of a phone for you!

kindest Regards

Mrs Dodd and the whole team at Stepping Stones