



24TH April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you are all well. Before, I give you updates I wanted to say a big thank you! You continue to do an amazing job. I also wanted to say thank you for the positivity in supporting your child with their new home learning.

The Government guidance continues to be the same.



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.

We do recognise how hard this is getting and we continue to be here for you at the end of the phone. All of you have children with complex needs and therefore you need to be super parents with advance parenting skills, strategies etc. The feedback I am getting is wonderful. I am hearing how amazing you are.

For example, this week I heard one of our parents has put in a strict timetable and if the children do not do their home learning then they do not get their xbox time!

Another family are really coming together and ensuring they work together sharing the children between them ensuring they get some quiet time to re-charge; and using the daily exercise to exhaust their child so they are calmer through the day!

We do want you to be honest with us in your daily call, and if things are really 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.

We also received a lovely message from one parent thanking the staff for all of the support, and for what we are doing to continue to keep their child busy and in a learning routine.

New Home Learning

Everyone received their home learning packs on Wednesday. I hope you are working your way through the short tasks. We do not expect more than 1-2 hours of learning a day. In fact the teachers have tried to create 3 x 20 minute activities alongside the daily key skills per day.

You still have access to the online materials and learning platforms. If you wanted to do a little more.

I hope the children are enjoying Mathletics! It is a really good resource so keep these key skills going.

We will be uploading next week's learning and ensuring you receive that on Wednesday.

Please have your first pack ready for collection to ensure a swift, contactless handover.

Free School Meal

Thank you to all the parents for your patience and understanding. We seem to have the system working now.

All vouchers are ordered well in advance and we are now providing you with a hard copy of the voucher in your pack.

This week ALDI are joining the scheme so if you wish your voucher to be for ALDI we need to know!

We hope you are enjoying the short video clips! Please share them with your child. 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