

Tuesday 21st April 2020

**RE: Covid-19 Update**

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Usually after a school holiday, I would be welcoming everyone back and hoping that everyone had a nice restful break and enjoyed their time away from school. I guess - in most - that still applies, and I do hope your time over the Easter/ Spring holiday was spent in the best way that in can be at this time.

I hope that all our families are keeping well and as we progress through this current time. In this letter, I felt it important to send a few points to further update you:

**1. Speculation into re-opening schools:**

There is a lot of speculation across the media alluding to when schools are likely due back. My advice is take what you read from the newspapers with a pinch of salt. We all know that education can appear highly on the media headlines but as far as I am aware - to date - there is no confirmed date for schools to re-open. I am also aware that this could change at any given moment - but the message I am taking away from central government is that safety is a priority and no schools will reopen unless it is safe to do so.

**2. Home Learning:**

School staff are spending time ensuring that home learning on the website is up to date in order to support children and families keep up as much as possible with learning. This will continue to be reviewed for the entire time we are in lockdown and staff are currently in the process of creating and uploading new materials. This will include a variety of activities, such as key concepts on a given topic; some key questions to answer; different curriculum ideas, for example art work or design activities; and possible writing outcomes. Please keep checking the website for the latest resources available.

Also, it may be worth having a look at the new Government Oak National Academy, which may provide some useful resources to support the work you feel is best for your children.

**3. Food Vouchers:**

After many efforts negotiating a very oversubscribed national voucher system, it is hoped that all families who are entitled to the vouchers are now receiving them. Thank you for your patience in waiting for these. If you have not received your voucher and you feel that you are entitled to one – please make sure you have completed and returned the online form that can be found on our Mayflower Federation website. Not all families are entitled to the vouchers but should you feel you meet the criteria, we will need this form returned to us before we are able to provide any vouchers.

#### **4. ICT Equipment**

Unfortunately, we are not able to loan any school ICT equipment at this time to families. The ICT resources we have in school are being used by school staff to complete their work and also are used to support learning for the key worker children in school who are being provided with child care.

The Government have recently proposed support with supplying ICT equipment and once further information has been provided to schools as to what this looks like, we will endeavour to assist where we can. In the meantime, the school is more than happy to print any resources you require, which can either be collected or posted to your home address. Please contact the school via telephone or email should you require this.

Please remember that should you need any support or advice, then school staff are still available to help and support you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if this is the case. I am sending you all my very best wishes, and hope to see and/ or speak to you soon.

Yours sincerely,  
Carol Askins

Headteacher