

Ashleigh Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter Date

29th January 2021

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After Half Term

- As you will probably have seen or read, the government have confirmed this week that schools will NOT reopen fully on Monday 22nd February.
- From Monday 22nd we will be open to keyworker and vulnerable children, and a new application form to request places will be sent out on Friday 5th February. The application form will be available until 9am on Tuesday 9th February.
- The provision is for critical keyworker and vulnerable children. Even if you have previously accessed provision please review the criteria and your requirements. In order to meet risk assessment requirements we have a limited number of spaces available.
- The earliest possible date the government is currently considering for schools to reopen will be Monday 8th March but this will depend on a variety of factors.
- We will carry on providing home learning until school fully reopens.

Home Learning Update

- A huge thank you for the many kind messages of encouragement and support our teachers have received about their home learning over the last few weeks. These have really made a difference at what has been a challenging time. We understand it's also very difficult at home and the classroom feel and experience is not something which can easily be replicated.
- As we hope you can see, our current home learning has evolved significantly from previous school closures and we now believe we have a well-balanced and blended approach of pre-recorded lessons (largely from our own teachers), written slides and independent tasks as well as regular Zoom catch up meetings which give children the opportunity to maintain contact with their teachers and their friends.
- After a number of discussions with parents and governors, we feel our approach allows us to offer the best experience for our whole school community that includes both children learning at home and key worker children in school but also enables us to support families in managing the challenges of access to multiple devices and internet connectivity. Whilst we know that routine is important, this approach also gives them the ability to manage their own time. This means children can learn at their own pace with help, where necessary, from an adult on their remote learning platform whilst also being able to revisit material at a later date.
- We appreciate the enormous efforts that parents are going to, to ensure that the children work at home. We understand how it is incredibly difficult to balance the priorities and feel it is important to remind you of our 'Do what you can' message as we all work together on this.



Keyworker/Vulnerable Children

- Please ensure children coming into school wear school uniform with layers of warm clothing, we are keeping the windows open in school for ventilation so it can be chilly.
- Please can parents/carers observe social distancing at pick up and drop off times, and only speak to your child's teacher face-to-face if absolutely necessary. If you contact the office, or the teacher via your child's learning platform, we can arrange a phone call if required.
- The entrance and exit gates into and out of school remain the same as last term:
 - Entrances: Sheffield Road gate and Beech Close gate
 - Exits: Lime Tree Avenue gate and Beech Close gate

Free School Meals Update

- For those families eligible for Free School Meals, vouchers should have been received by email this week. If you have not received them please contact the office.
- For those children eligible for FSMs also attending keyworker provision and having school lunches, the voucher amounts have been amended accordingly.
- The government have also confirmed that vouchers will be available for the week of February half term, and this will be sent as a separate email voucher (delivery date 10th February).

Safe Internet Use

- As our children are currently spending more time online, it is so important that we have everything in place to keep them safe. Sometimes it is quite confusing to set up parental controls on all of their different devices.
- This website shows you how to make accessing the internet on phones, laptops, games consoles and TV a lot safer: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Children's Mental Health Week - 1st-7th February

Children's mental health week is taking place from 1st to 7th February. The theme this year is 'Express Yourself'. Place2Be have lots of resources on their website: <https://www.place2be.org.uk/>

Point 1

Point 1 is available for referrals and telephone support for young people and their families. You can contact them on 0800 977 4077 or email point1@ormistonfamilies.org.uk

Norfolk & Suffolk Foundation Trust Parent Workshops

We sent out the below link earlier in the week with regards to workshops that ran on 25th and 26th January, but there are additional workshops 'Supporting our young people with anxiety' on 9th February and 'Supporting our young people with low mood' on 22nd and 23rd February. More information, including how to book, can be found at: <https://www.nsfh.nhs.uk/Pages/parentprog.aspx>



All Babies Cry

- In December 2020, Norfolk Safeguarding Children Partnership launched '**All Babies Cry**' a campaign created in collaboration to help normalise babies crying and offer local support to parents.
- 'All Babies Cry' has been popular with families and professionals are being encouraged to ask parents how they are coping with their babies crying at every contact. Anyone needing support should visit www.JustOneNorfolk.nhs.uk/AllBabiesCry

Just One Norfolk - Spotting Serious Illness in Children

Just one Norfolk have put together some useful information on different childhood conditions and symptoms, what to look out for and who to contact. This can be accessed via this link

www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/childhood-illnesses/spotting-serious-illness-in-children

New contact number for parent/carers for the Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) team

- A new number has been set up so that any family with a child with an EHCP or having an assessment for one can contact the Norfolk County Council team quickly and easily.
- If they cannot answer your question straight away, they will come back to you in 48 hours.
- New customer contact telephone number is:01603 679183

Family Voice Norfolk - Virtual Coffee Morning

- You may be home schooling, working from home, on the front line, caring for wider family ... or juggling any number of these.
- If you can, why not just pause for a coffee and a chat with other parent carers who understand?
- Just drop in at the link below. You're always welcome.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83006703755>
- **Tuesday, 2 February 2021 from 10:00 to 11:00am**
- We want our coffee mornings to be a safe, friendly place for parent carers to spend time together.
- We know this works best when everyone knows what to expect. So it may help you to know that:
- We will aim to start and finish on time.
- The session will be recorded automatically. This recording will be kept securely and will not be viewed except in the unlikely event that a concern about the session is raised by someone present. It will be destroyed after two weeks.

Diary Dates

[2020-2021 Dates](#)



Fri 12 th Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of half term
Mon 22 nd Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and Nursery reopen to keyworker/vulnerable children. • (Full school reopening date to be confirmed by the government).
Fri 26 th Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:00/3:15pm School & Nursery close for the Easter holidays
Mon 12 th Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and Nursery reopen
Mon 3 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Holiday – School and Nursery closed for the day
Fri 28 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:00/3:15pm School & Nursery close for half term
Mon 7 th Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and Nursery reopen
Wed 21 st Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:00/3:15pm School & Nursery close for the Summer holidays

Previous Newsletters

If you would like details of any of our previous newsletters, regarding (for example):

- Safeguarding,
- Keeping Children Safe in Education,
- Mental health support,
- Free School Meal applications.

Please contact the office who will be able to help you.

