

Friday 22 May 2020



COVID19 PLAN – Weekly update

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

I am writing to give you an update on our plan, following our leadership team meeting this week we have added two further points to our plan, 5 & 6.

Our updated plan

- 1. Encourage parents who can, to keep their child at home with them, as this is the safest place for them**
- 2. Continue to regularly update the individual pupil risk assessment in partnership with parents and other professionals and offer places where needed**
- 3. Identify consistent groups of pupils, in consistent bases, supported by a consistent group of staff members who are familiar to them**
- 4. Continue to update our school-based risk assessments to ensure safety is paramount for all those onsite**
- 5. Continue with our best endeavours to support those learning at home**
- 6. Begin to risk assess the educational impact of ongoing learning at home**

I will take each point on the plan and provide an update.

- 1. Encourage parents who can, to keep their child at home with them, as this is the safest place for them**

As a school we still feel the safest place for your child is at home with you.

Attendance at school continues to be a personal choice and for those parents who want to keep their child at home, there will be no consequences or fines from the school or the local authority.

There continues to be lots of conflicting information in the media regards the science and if it is safe for all pupils to return.

We will continue to closely monitor the science and safety information that is issued and will wait for further information and guidance from both the Government and the local authority, who are working closely with Public Health England to provide the best possible information, both nationally and locally.

- 2. Continue to regularly update the individual pupil risk assessment in partnership with parents and other professionals and offer places where needed**

We are continuing to work in partnership with you updating your child's risk assessment alongside their social worker if they have one and other professionals, to determine if a place is needed, this is done on a case by case basis. From the 01 June the number of pupils in school roughly doubles and there will be approximately 20 pupils accessing school each day.



Headteacher: Mr Kieran Welsh Harrington Road, Chorley, PR7 1JZ. **Tel:** 01257 262227

Email: head@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk **Website:** www.astleypark.lancs.sch.uk



Please keep us updated on your individual family situation and should it change please get in touch with a member of the Pupil & Family Support team who will be happy to work with you and determine if a place is needed and can be accommodated.

When carrying out this risk assessment there are several essential factors that need to be considered. e.g. Transport / Medical Needs / Behavioural Needs / Personal Care needs / 1:1 support needs.

Many of the pupils who have returned have found it incredibly difficult to adjust as school is a very different place to the one they left.

In order to support those pupils who are returning, the Pupil & Family support team have put together a set of support materials.

3. Identify consistent groups of pupils, in consistent bases, supported by a consistent group of staff members who are familiar to them

To achieve our aim of consistency, as soon as 2 or more pupils return from a specific class, the teaching assistants assigned to that class will return to school to facilitate onsite learning. The class teacher will continue to work from home for most of the time to facilitate learning from Home. If 5 or more pupils return, then the teacher will split their week, working onsite and from home.

4. Continue to update our school-based risk assessments to ensure safety is paramount for all those onsite

We have a detailed Re-opening Risk Assessment, supported by several specific risk assessments, e.g. Classroom - Personal Care – Physical Handling Plans.

Risk Assessments are also in place for drop off and collection of pupils, entering and exiting the building, moving throughout the building.

We have risk assessed our ability to promote social distancing and in order to do so the number of staff & children per room is limited to 8, so the needs of the pupils will determine how many pupils / staff there can be in each class. There must always be a minimum of 2 adults per class.

If more pupils want to return than can be accommodated, we may need to implement a rota system. e.g. An individual timetable of time onsite and time learning from home will be produced.

Some pupils will require full-time access to school, as this has been identified on their individual risk assessment.





5. Continue with our best endeavours to support those learning at home

We are continuing with our Learning from Home videos on our YouTube channel, sending home hard copies of learning packs, using our learning platforms Education City and Purple Mash. In addition, classes are now introducing online whole class social sessions, and exploring the possibility of live online lessons each week.

6. Begin to risk assess the educational impact of ongoing learning at home

Over the next few weeks, we will be considering the impact of ongoing absence on our pupils' education including their social, emotional, physical health & well-being.

We are currently discussing transition, for all pupils, those new pupils who are due to join our school in September, those who are due to move onto a new setting and children who will be moving phases and classes. I will give you further details in the next few weeks.

We have also begun discussing which pupils are most at risk from ongoing absence from school, but this is proving difficult as all of our pupils have multiple and complex needs and would all benefit from returning to school as soon as possible, but unfortunately we could not accommodate a full re-opening at this present time.

I would like nothing more than for us all to return to how school was before the pandemic, and over the next few weeks and months we can plan and work toward this, but only if I can ensure it is safe to do so.

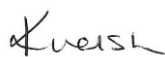
Keeping everyone at school safe and healthy will always be my number one priority.

I will send out a letter each week, providing updates regards our plan and the possibility of wider re-opening.

Thank you all so much for your continued support and understanding.

Kindest regards,

Keep Safe 



Mr Kieran Welsh

