



Culverley Road, Catford, London SE6 2LA

Tel: 020 8698 5001

Email: admin@rusheygreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Website: www.rusheygreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Lisa Williams

Deputy Headteacher: Mr. Michael Grocock

Interim Deputy Headteacher: Ms Lisa Bogle

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Coronavirus/ COVID-19 Update: 18 March

I am writing to update you on the school's situation in the current COVID-19 Pandemic. There will be regular updates and we will post these on our school website as well as notifying you by text that an update has been issued to all parents.

The current government advice is that 'No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England'. However, if necessary and due to local conditions, head teachers may have to make arrangements for partial opening or total closure outside of the PHE advice.

As a result of the latest government's guidance on self-isolation and their guidance on social distancing, we find ourselves unable to fully staff the school.

The school remains open but the following arrangements are in place:

Some classes are merged together and joint planned activities are prepared for the children to continue with their learning. If the situation arises where children cannot attend school, we will notify you immediately. This will only happen if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school safely.

We are sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are no immediate plans to close, but the situation is changing very quickly.

We want your child's education to continue. In order to ensure this can happen, we have put arrangements in place to safeguard your children and provide them with some education. As part of this planning, we have provided online learning access for all our pupils via a platform called Purple Mash.

Arrangements for teacher's to set children work

In the event that we have to close the school, your child's teacher will set daily tasks for English, Reading, Maths and the wider curriculum. This task will be set on Purple Mash. Your child's teacher will send you a text message, daily, to tell you that this work has been set. Your child will be expected to complete the task by 12pm the next day for your teacher to review. This will only be possible for the online tasks. At least one of the tasks set daily will not be online to support those who have limited or no internet access. Your child will not need to leave the house or have any special equipment to do the work their teacher sets. All that we ask is that your child has access to: a pen, a pencil and something to write or draw on.





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Purple Mash

Through Purple Mash, your child has access to a whole world of fun and exciting learning opportunities in one safe place.

What is Purple Mash? Purple Mash is a comprehensive suite of online learning tools and content, designed to be used by Primary aged children in the classroom and at home.

Find out more here: <https://2simple.com/parents>

What should you do first? To begin with, it's a good idea to log in to Purple Mash with your child. We suggest the following:

- Familiarising yourself with the menu icons.
- Looking at any set tasks that have been given to your child (2Dos)
- Finding out about Class Blogs and Display Boards accessible via the Sharing Icon
- Exploring the grammar, maths and spelling activities which match to the National Curriculum
- Play one of many fun, educational collaborative games such as 2Race
- Delve into the Science area and find out about all the areas of Science it covers
- Investigate the Topics area to support securing their knowledge of the wider curriculum
- Tour the Computing area trying out some of the tools such as 2Code, 2Go and Logo
- Get creative in the Tools section, from making an animation to building a printable 3D model
- Dive into Serial Mash (an online library of books)
- Learn through play in Mini Mash (For children aged 3 to 5).

How can you get more involved?

As a parent, you can find out about your child's learning on Purple Mash and support them beyond the classroom by registering with Parent Portal. Parent Portal allows you to easily see the learning your child has been doing on Purple Mash, including any comments on work from teachers, homework (2Dos), rewards and so much more. You will never miss out on being informed of your child's learning as Parent Portal sends all registered users a weekly digest email.

You can start using Parent Portal today by following the 3 simple steps below.

Step 1: Enter URL on your child's login card.

Step 2: Click 'Register as a parent'.

Step 3: Enter the 'Parent Code' on your child's login card and follow additional instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Please be assured that the safety of pupils, staff and the school community remain our priority and we are happy to be of assistance where we can.

We continue to ask that parents follow the current and latest advice being given by the government agencies.





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Coronavirus advice-

Anyone who develops the following symptoms must stay at home for 14 days (seven days if they live alone):-

- a high temperature and/or
- a new continuous cough

Everyone who lives in the same household as someone with symptoms must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

Do not go (or take your child) to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home.

For most people, Coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection but if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

Stay at home guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Advice for vulnerable people: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

What we need you to do

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible**.
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- If your child is unwell or is self-isolating, report this as soon as possible, you would do normally.
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55444444) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety

If anyone becomes ill during the school day they will need to go home and will be asked to remain at home for 14 days. Any siblings in school will also be asked to go home and self-isolate for 14 days. You will need to let the schools of any other siblings know so that they can do the same.

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Williams
Headteacher

