

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update on current life at Woodfield

As we start the second week of the 'lockdown' period, during these unprecedented and challenging times, school continues to be partially closed. As directed by the Government **'the single and most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives'. When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection.**

With this in mind we are limiting the number of pupils/staff travelling to school and minimising the number of people in the building. This week we are delivering 'care' provision for children of key workers (predominantly NHS staff) in order to support staff working on the 'front line' to save lives.

We are trying to implement 'social distancing' as best we can, although the pupils find this quite difficult. We currently have a very small group of children in school and these pupils are in one area of the school spread across 2 classrooms. This means that some of the pupils who are currently in school are not in an area that is familiar to them; and they are with staff with whom they are not familiar. This organisation is necessary in order to run the group with the minimum number of staff. Our normal curriculum provision continues to remain suspended.

It is also important to note that we have **no school nurse provision on site**; and do not expect to have any nursing provision for the foreseeable future. Helen is into her second week working on the front line to support in this crisis. Not having a nurse in school will impact on decisions regarding which children we can accommodate safely in school.

**Home Learning Packs:** Hopefully those of you who have accessed the home learning packs and the suggested websites have found them useful. If you have not been able to collect your child's pack we will be in contact with you this week to organise how we can get it to you. We will aim to update these over the next half term as the situation continues.

**Communication:** We are keen to ensure that we remain in contact with you during this time of crisis in the country to ensure we can continue to support you as best we can. You should have received an email from your child's class teacher on Friday and again today. The teachers will check their class email on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays each week during term time.

As a reminder, we have also set up an email [COVID-19@woodfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:COVID-19@woodfield.herts.sch.uk) which is for you to use if you would like to contact me, Ian, Dave or Samantha. I will be checking this on a daily basis, but potentially not until the end of each day! Please also remember that we are available by phone during the hours the school building is open, currently 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Class teachers and SLT will endeavour to reply as promptly as we can to emails, but please note we will only be replying during the hours 9.00 – 4.30.

As it is looking increasingly likely that the 'lockdown' period will continue into the summer term we will be starting to look this week at our provision for after the Easter break. With this in mind **please complete the attached form and return to school, by this Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April using the [COVID-19@woodfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:COVID-19@woodfield.herts.sch.uk)** email address. If you are not able to return the form by Wednesday e.g. because you do not know your shift pattern this far in

advance, then please return it as soon as possible in order to assist us with planning. The Senior Leadership Team will be meeting on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April to review the situation and confirm plans for the start of the summer term; this will be after the Government has hopefully updated the nation on the situation in the UK and the way forward. Decisions regarding provision in school will be made based on the state of play in the country and following Government advice and guidelines.

Please remember however that **pupils who can be at home - should be at home.** This is the safest option.

Thank you all for your continued understanding and support during this unprecedented and challenging time. Your messages of support are really appreciated.

We have no idea what the future is going to be, but whatever you are doing and wherever you are working....take care....and stay safe.

Gill