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Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

Yesterday's Government announcement has undoubtedly had an impact on many of you and I can completely appreciate some of the challenges you will be facing over the coming weeks.

Here at Parton Manor Schools' Federation, our remit is to open school for the children of critical and key worker families and to provide online learning for the rest of the children. Below, I have outlined all the necessary permutations which I would strongly encourage you to read to avoid any confusion.

Key Worker/Critical children

For those who filled in the Microsoft Form I sent out yesterday and today, thank you for getting back to us so promptly and apologies for the technical issues; my first time using forms (eek!).

We have managed to keep the year groups discrete apart from Year 5 & 6 who will form a joint bubble. We will make sure that the children are taught by their year group teachers with support from additional members of the year group team. We will ensure that these teachers remain with your child's bubble and will not be moving from bubble to bubble unless absolutely necessary.

Timings

The children will need to arrive at 8:45am by using the gates they have been throughout last term. The school day will finish at 3pm and like before, please use the allocated gates to come and pick the children up.

Food

Children who are in receipt of FSM will be receiving a food voucher via the WONDE application. This notification will come through via the email we have on record. We will be issuing these vouchers on a 2-weekly basis at £3 per child per day. If your child is an Infant pupil who is entitled to Universal Free School Meals, you will also receive £3 per child per day if you are using the Key Worker provision at school.

All Key Worker children will need to bring in a packed lunch on the days they are in school. The school canteen will be closed during the lockdown. A water bottle and a snack for break time will also be required. Please make sure that the children's lunchboxes and water bottles are disinfected before returning the following day – thank you.

Clothing

Children are not expected to wear school uniform and we would prefer then to wear sports clothing as the teachers will be taking advantage of the playground for physical activity. Obviously, they will remain inside if the weather so dictates.

PMOOS

PMOOS provision will be available for Key Worker children only. Thank you for those who have sent in their requests – these have been recorded and PMOOS will open for business on Monday 11th January, with Breakfast Club starting at 7:45am and After School club at 3:15pm to 6:00pm. Please book this via the normal method.

Home Learning

Home Learning for all other children will commence on Thursday 7th January. I have spoken to the teachers today and I am pleased to say that those who are at home will receive the work that the Key Workers will be doing in school, so the educational provision is fair and balanced for all pupils.

Like before, there will be a weekly summary available on Class Dojo with access to all you require via a Padlet link. This will enable you to view the content in one place and not have to worry about looking through threads of Dojo posts. The Infant teachers will predominantly use Dojo and may use Padlet. Let's watch this space.

As stated on my previous Dojo posts, we won't be able to fulfil any Zoom lessons due to staff teaching the KW children in school. However, I have asked all staff to carry out at least 2 'check in' Zoom sessions with their class across the week, when the staff are not teaching in school. These sessions may refer to the upcoming work or even celebrating work that has been uploaded. In essence, I would like the children, at the very least, to see their teachers and friends at points during the week. The class teacher will make you aware of these sessions via Class Dojo ☺

Upload work to portfolio

It is essential that the children upload their work to their portfolios, but I would ask that you limit the amount of uploads to just English, maths and one topic piece. The teacher will look at the work when they're not in school and will give a general comment about the work. Thank you for your patience with this matter.

School materials

I appreciate that you may require additional materials, so if you need to, there will be a limited number of packs available to collect from the office areas at each school from Thursday. These packs will include, some colouring crayons, an exercise book and some maths and English support tools. These are for those families who desperately need them.

Reading Books

This was mentioned in a previous Dojo post, but with change in circumstances and the tighter restrictions, we won't be sending home reading books at this time.

COVID reassurance

To reassure you, the children and staff, who will be in school, will continue to follow our risk assessment procedures (this can be accessed on our website) rigorously. We will make sure that children and staff are washing their hands and adhering to Social Distancing measures as much as possible. With most of the Federation in discrete year groups, we have mitigated the most common risks.

Thank you all and I'm sure over the coming days there'll be updates, so please check Class Dojo for these.

Kind regards



Mr Darren Preece