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7th January 21,

Dear Parents / Carers,

Following the Government's announcement on Monday evening, we have worked tirelessly to ensure that we are able to offer high quality accessible Remote Learning for children who will be remaining at home, whilst ensuring we maximise our capacity to provide learning in school for as many eligible children as possible.

We have been inundated with requests for places for children of critical workers and have seen a significant increase from 25 requests in the first national lockdown in March 2020 to 150 requests in this national lockdown. We are pleased that we have been able to offer places to the majority of families who requested it. We have also been able to ensure we keep in line with Government Guidance and offered places in school to vulnerable children (Children in care, children with an EHCP and children with a social worker) therefore continuing to ensure we provide the very highest levels of care and safeguarding. Those of you who have been allocated a place should have received communication confirming their place. Any queries about critical worker places should be sent to beanfield.admin@beanfieldprimary.org

We have looked very carefully at maximum occupancy in classrooms in order to keep everyone safe. Consideration has been given to the numbers of classrooms in each year group we can open whilst ensuring we have enough staff available to deliver a high quality remote learning package to the 600 children at home, as well as maintain our safeguarding and welfare commitments. As a result, we have had to make some difficult decisions regarding the provision. You will all be aware of the alarming levels of infection across the country as well as the increasing number of deaths being reported. On that basis, I would like to reiterate that the places are for 'parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response' and that there is a national STAY AT HOME order which means you should only use the provision if you really need to. We know it is inconvenient but if a parent is working from home, or your role does not fulfil the 'critical to the covid response' criteria then the safest and best place for your child to be is at home with you.

The children in school where possible will be working with their usual teachers and support staff but in a reduced capacity. This will enable us to provide remote learning, respond to questions and make weekly calls to you in order to provide feedback on any online learning or other areas you may need support. If you have any specific queries about your child's learning at home, we have set up dedicated email addresses for each year group. Please email your queries to:

Year group child is in	Email address for remote learning queries only
Nursery	bpsnursery@beanfieldprimary.org
Reception	BPSYR@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 1	BPSY1@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 2	BPSY2@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 3	BPSY3@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 4	BPSY4@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 5	BPSY5@beanfieldprimary.org
Year 6	BPSY6@beanfieldprimary.org

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As staff will be working both in school and out of school on this work, please note that your weekly call from a member of the year group team your child is in, may come from an unknown number. It is important that these calls are answered as we track these carefully in school. If a call is not answered, it may result in a doorstep visit from a member of the wellbeing team to check on the welfare of your child.

Our home learning package can be found on our website by clicking the Parent Info tab. Learning is broken down by year group and every Monday a full week's worth of lessons will be ready for you to access. We know that some of you have already been accessing home learning this week and we are grateful for the positive feedback we have received. Please note, whilst there are documents for each lesson to download, these documents do not need to be printed in order for children to complete their work. Children can open and read through the documents and then complete their learning in their Home Learning books which you are able to collect from school.

If you unable to access the home learning package online, we can arrange for a paper pack of learning for you. Learning packs for the following week will be available for you to collect from the school office on Thursdays and Fridays between 9.00am and 3.00pm. You have already received information about our home learning offer and as we move through the period of lockdown, we will be working very hard to expand and enrich this.

Whilst we have set out four hours learning for each day, please do the best that you can in your own personal circumstances and feel free to supplement learning with other activities both on and off line. A little learning every day is better than no learning at all.

Free School Meals

We have issued vouchers for every family in receipt of free school meals. If you have any issues accessing the vouchers then please email our admin team.

Mental Health Support

We appreciate these are very challenging times. Our website has a range of support with links to useful websites to support mental health under our home learning tab.

Food Bank

If you require support with food during this time then please email foodbank@beanfieldprimary.org

All other enquiries

Finally, I would like to say we are here to support you. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or issues. For all other enquiries please contact beanfield.admin@beanfieldprimary.org

We would like to thank you for your patience and support as we work to provide the very best quality and safest education, support and care for our school community.

Many thanks,

Samantha Eathorne Principal

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