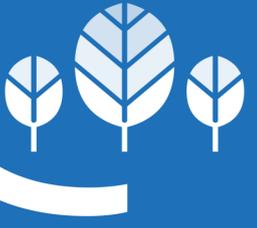


TOGETHER



THE ACRE HALL NEWSLETTER

15th January 2021

Website: www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk Twitter: @AcreHall

Email: admin@acrehall.trafford.sch.uk Telephone: 0161 748 4356

Update

As you will know school is closed to most pupils. If parents are classed as critical workers and can not work from home then pupils are eligible for a place. The government document below explains who this applies to. Copy and paste the link in to your internet browser if you wish to read it in full.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The letter from Trafford, which we sent out to all parents this week, explains about these places;

Whilst schools have been formally closed since Tuesday 5th January, they continue to support your child, both academically and pastorally. We stress, for public health reasons, schools are only open to vulnerable children and young people and the children of key workers. The provision they are putting in place is an emergency measure. Our schools have been working exceptionally hard to manage the requests for places for vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers and if you have requested a place, you will have been notified of the outcome.

The Government has updated and published a list of those parent / carers who are deemed to be key workers as well as pupils who are considered vulnerable. The guidance also states that where possible schools should keep group sizes small and keep the numbers accessing school as low as possible. Any additional space available where there are lower numbers of pupils attending should be used wherever possible to maximise the distance between pupils and between staff and other people.

We are very grateful to everyone for their patience and understanding at this time.

We have over 120 children attending school each day. All our teachers are in school managing the learning for the children who are here and also for those learning at home. We are trying to keep the learning for all the class going so that when schools are able to reopen fully (we hope that will be as soon as possible), each class can get back to their usual curriculum. Children's learning was significantly disrupted last year due to school closures and we want to minimise, as much as possible, the effects on their learning from this school closure period. All teachers have created an online learning timetable detailing 'zoom' call times and tasks to be completed each day. These have been added to the seesaw system and will also be added to the 'Covid' section of our website soon.

There is a definite need for all pupils at home to complete some remote learning but we understand that this is incredibly difficult. Many parents are juggling learning for their children whilst also trying to work at home. We will help whenever we can. We have tried to arrange 'zoom calls' so that siblings are not expected to be on calls at the same times. We have a small number of digital devices left and can give these out to children if they are only accessing digital learning via a phone or have no way of accessing the internet. Please contact us if this applies to you.

One way System

If your child is still attending school please keep to the usual start and finish times. Likewise, please use the correct entrances and exits to keep to the one way system. Social distancing is still required.

ICT Help

Our ICT technician can come to school to diagnose any connectivity issues with home devices. He is not able to repair items but can give advice on best options for use etc, Please contact us if you wish to make an appointment.

School Places

If your child is attending school and having a school meal please order this as usual before 9pm on Sunday evening . If you have any issues with making this order, please let us know so that we can help you. If you have been given a school place, please attend every day unless your child is ill. Inform us by email or telephone message if this is the case.

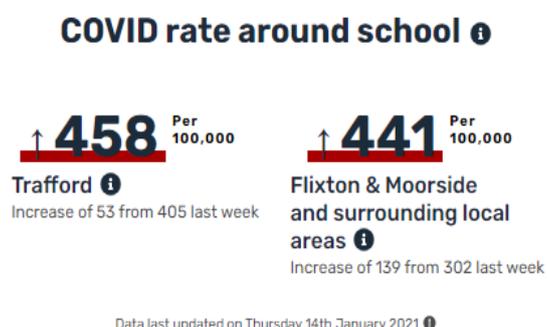
School Meal Vouchers

We have sent vouchers (which can be used at most supermarkets) to parents via email for pupils who are not attending school but are still entitled to a free school meal. The vouchers are for £25 (this comes as a £10 voucher and a £15 voucher) to cover last week and this week. These are funded from school allocations. We receive £2.17 per day to provide the meals but have rounded this up to £25 to make it easier. From next week the government will be again setting up its voucher scheme and will provide £15 per week for children who are not attending school but are eligible for free school meals. We have to allocate them to specific supermarkets and will use the same ones as parents requested last time. If you have not had these vouchers before or wish to change allocated supermarkets please tell us as soon as possible.

Please note—these vouchers are only for those who have applied to Trafford to be granted free school meals due to income or being in receipt of certain benefits . This is not the same as receiving free school meals for children in key Stage 1. It is certainly worth checking if you are eligible for free school meals on the Trafford website. <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/trafford-catering/free-school-meals.aspx>

Covid Update

Our regular updates from Trafford Public Health show that rates in Trafford are increasing significantly; between 1st and 7th January case numbers in Trafford rose 36% . The School Covid Map shows the figures below for this week.



This week we had a positive case in our Nursery class and had to close to everyone. We know this caused disruption to those who were attending and thank everyone for their co-operation.

Home Learning

Trying to juggle work tasks with home learning is an incredibly difficult challenge and no one can underestimate the toll this takes on families. Every family situation is different and what works for one does not work for all! Tips for managing learning at home—the websites below give some good information about setting up spaces for learning ; organising time etc

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/working-from-home-with-your-child-at-home>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/home-learning-how-to-manage-different-age-kids>

<https://childmind.org/remote-learning-resources-for-families/>

Useful websites

We use 'zoom' calls for live learning sessions and also the school 'seesaw' system for setting work and tasks for children. In between these activities parents might wish to provide extra things for children to do. Here are some ideas;

Listen to a book - Audible are allowing access to free stories for children whilst schools are closed

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

The David Walliams website has some free audio recordings of his latest books

<https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/watch-and-listen/>

Phonics and Reading - Letters and Sounds are giving access to resources for teaching phonics at home

<https://lettersandsounds.org.uk/for-home/overview>

Phonics Play is also allowing access to its resources

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Book Trust has some stories and online reading activities

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>

Extra lessons - The Oak National Academy has lots of online lessons available in different subjects

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>

BBC Bitesize also has some topics and lessons

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/this-terms-topics>

PE - Joe Wicks is doing his workouts on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays on his you tube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

And finally a 'day out' for the weekend!

Knowsley Safari Park has lots of animal videos and resources which you can access at any time

<https://www.knowsleysafariexperience.co.uk/explore/home-school-safari/>

Chester Zoo also has some virtual zoo sessions on line. It does have an area where you can give a donation but there are lots of free video of clips of the animals and their various antics

<https://www.chesterzoo.org/virtual-zoo-2/>