



*Loving to learn, Learning to love.
For every child a chance to shine*



LAYSTON C of E FIRST SCHOOL
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Tel: 01763 271235 Email: admin@layston.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A McMurrough

25th November 2020

Dear Parents,

To begin with thank you all so much for your continued support of the school. As we approach winter, the likelihood of Covid-19 cases reaching Layston increases. We have received an email from our local councillor Jeff Jones with this request:

Together with Herts Police we have received reports of a lack of social distancing and complacency around face coverings. We all have a responsibility to take steps in helping reduce the spread of coronavirus. With this in mind, all families are required (unless exempt) to adhere to the following points to ensure a safe arrival and departure at school for all involved:

- **Only one parent or guardian should drop off and pick up their child/children to reduce numbers outside school**
- **Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household**
- **Make good use of all available entry and exit points to the school site to avoid bottlenecks**
- **Refrain from lengthy face-to-face conversation with staff or other families; use digital communication methods during lockdown**
- **Go straight home after dropping and/or collecting your child/children**
- **Consider wearing a face covering during pick up and drop off**

Thank you for your support and understanding – together we will slow the spread of COVID-19 and save more lives.

We also wanted to share with you our contingency plans should any of our bubbles have to close. We will continue to support the learning and mental well-being of our children via remote learning through our website and Tapestry platforms (YR & Y1).

A normal school day involves a lot of interaction between peers and adults as well as movement around the classroom and the outdoor areas. Obviously remote learning is very different as your child will need your support with this at home and the intensity of 1-1 remote learning does not compare with the





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dynamics of a classroom, therefore the home school working day will look slightly different. It is important to chunk their learning into bite size pieces appropriate to their age and stage.

Class teachers will post videos and learning tasks for English, Maths and other curriculum tasks on either the website and or Tapestry for Years R & 1. The home learning can be found under the heading 'Parents' and is divided into year groups and then subjects. Resources or hard copies of learning tasks will be provided when requested for collection from the school office. We appreciate that during a bubble closure, each family's daily routine may be different, so we will not be setting a fixed daily timetable for when work should be undertaken. We will not set unrealistic deadlines or expectations of when work should be completed. However, as school is mandatory at this time, there is an expectation that all the set tasks will be undertaken within a reasonable timeframe. Clearly there will be exceptions to this and individual circumstances will be taken into consideration.

If you have any difficulties with accessing or engaging in home learning, please email admin@layston.herts.sch.uk or phone the school office.

I hope that any bubble closure is limited but we will do all we can to ensure that children receive appropriate curriculum coverage. If you have siblings in different year groups you will see a difference in the content, amount and structure of work set. Please support your child and support us in delivering the provided curriculum.

Finally in response to queries about Christmas cards we have decided that, to keep in line with our risk assessment, we will not be using the whole school Christmas post box. Instead we would ask that Christmas cards are sent only within class bubbles so that they can be quarantined before being given out to the children. From the week beginning 30th November until Friday 11th December children may bring in Christmas cards for their class. These will then be quarantined and given out in the last week of term.

With best wishes
Adele McMurrough

