



Longstone CE (VA) School,
The Cross,
Great Longstone
DE45 1TZ

Telephone: 01629 640377

Sunday 1st November 2020

Dear parents and carers

I hope you all enjoyed a happy and healthy half term break and we look forward to seeing you all again this week.

I'm sure that you are all aware of the government decision to go into a national lockdown from Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December. It remains a strange time for all of us but it is clear that schools are to currently remain open and we have provision for remote learning if pupils or bubbles need to self-isolate or stay at home. As always our school will continue to follow local and national guidance. We will keep you updated as and when the situation changes for our school.

We also have clear procedures in place if we have children and staff requiring to self-isolate or we have a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school. We would notify you of the actions that we would ask you to take and direct you to supporting guidance.

Remote learning:

As I mentioned in the recent newsletter, we are in the process of moving to Google Education to provide a platform for remote/home learning. We have used the Department for Education provisioning programme to migrate to this system and the programme provides the school with a £1500 grant for costs and training. We will let you know as soon as we are able to start using Google Education and provide you with the details you will need to be able to use it. In the meantime, the school will carry on using 'SeeSaw' as its platform for home learning if required in the next few weeks.

Updated information from the government:

Please find the link below to updated Department for Education guidance on what parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=30%20October%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Staffing:

We must be aware our staff team is also vulnerable and affected by this ongoing situation. Unfortunately, we have some staff required to self-isolate for the next week or so:

Miss Brocklehurst and Miss Naylor are currently self-isolating. We are fortunate that Miss Pont is able to cover the class for the whole of this week.

We will be covering these absences as best we can but I fear it may become a more common occurrence. Please bear with us and support us by working with us to ensure that we can provide our services in a safe way for all. We

are sure you understand that provision is under daily review based on many factors. We ask that you check your emails daily and please contact the school office if you need to provide us with updated contact details.

A big thanks:

Thank you for your ongoing support in these difficult times and rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected. Please also get in touch if we can support you and your family.

On behalf of the whole staff team, I send our warmest wishes to you all.

Kind regards

Simon Beahan

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Simon Beahan
Acting Executive Headteacher