



Abbey Meads Community Primary School

Hugo Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN25 4GY

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5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Weekly Update

This was the first week of our expansion of pupil numbers in school. It was a new experience for all involved and some enjoyed the experience enormously, while others found it all a little too much. We all experience and manage situations differently. No one way is the right way and nobody should feel anxious if schooling is one step too far for them or their child at the moment.

Our safety measures and procedures worked as planned and I am pleased to say all parents observed excellent distancing at the gates – **thank you for not trying to come through the school gates.** *Please remember different age groups must enter through their own gate and not try to sneak through another.* The children were excellent, though our numbers are such at the moment, it was more easily managed. Currently, when we include those who are not yet allowed to return and consider the part time nature of our programme, we only have between approximately 12% of the school population attending at any one time. If all children came back to school, I would have a personal concern that our ability to manage the space successfully would be severely compromised.

So far, we have had two children sent for testing; one a precaution taken by a parent and the other insisted upon by school. We will let you know if either come back with a positive result, but only the specific 'bubble' which the child attends is affected and sent home if this occurs.

For confirmation, we are continuing to supply families who claim Free School Meals with vouchers, so expect all children to bring a packed lunch from home. Please inform us if this is a difficulty for you.

Regarding the curriculum, children have been enjoying their lessons both at school and online. We have received some very positive feedback on both, with an even greater take up of online learning in June. An email is sent out every Monday morning explaining where to look for the resources to support the lessons each week – with the same information held in the Purple Mash Blog for each age group as well. Please look for this information and, if you have a problem, please use the allocated year group email addresses. All Year groups from Year 1 to Year 6 will have access to four Reading, Writing, Grammar and Maths sessions a week. Early Years children will continue to use Tapestry.

Whilst the planned lessons and activities are intended to be accessible to the majority of children from the designated year group, there will be certain children (either due to being higher attainers or because they are receiving parental support) who may find the work easy to complete and want to access the work for the year group above. Equally, there will be children who find the work for their year group too challenging (children with SEN or those receiving no support at home with online learning) and therefore they may wish to access the tasks for an earlier year group.

If you require more than this extensive provision of online support, you can continue to access all our online support through our Website: <http://www.abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk/content.asp?id=101>.



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

Abbey Meads Community Primary School
is part of The Blue Kite Academy Trust



Healthy Schools

With the possibility of larger numbers returning to school shortly, it can no longer be simply assumed that your child will get a place in our school if you are a key worker. Those already in school will continue to keep their place, whilst others will need to reapply if their circumstances change and they require a place. We will of course be doing all we can to expand the provision, to cope with increasing numbers, and to create spaces for all our key worker children, but it will need to be planned in advance. You cannot ring up the day before and demand a place.

School looks and feels very different, but we hope that things across the country improve sufficiently to allow us to return to normality and see more of you, in much safer times, in the not too distant future.

As always do keep in touch and remember that we find out what we are expected to do at the same time as the general public. We will continue to plan ahead and try to second guess the Government guidance, we have a variety of action plans depending on this outcome.

Our contact details are:

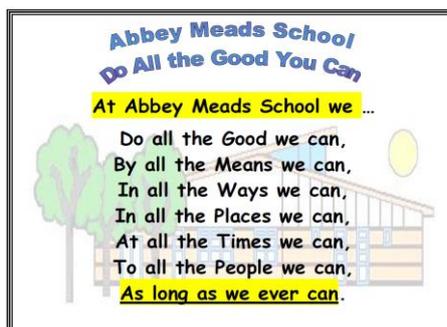
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Have a lovely weekend, keep sending fun and interesting things to our Abbey Days Magazine using the email magazine@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk, follow us on Twitter (use **@AMCPS_Swindon** on any messages so we can see your Tweets) and continue to look after each – Always Pay Forward and Be Kind.

Take Care,
Mr Buckley

