

Nansledan School

Head of School: Mrs V Dilnot

19th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. As we continue with our recovery phase in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, I would like to give you an update on our current school situation.

On Tuesday 2nd June, after careful planning and preparation, we were able to open our doors to accept the children of Key Workers and vulnerable families. These children have successfully been in, working in pods of no more that fifteen with two members of staff at any one time in each pod. In total, we have six pods in operation working on staggered drop offs and pick-ups with a significantly altered school day and updated procedures in place. You will know that prior to the school closure, we had 6 classes in operation and based on the staffing structure, we are now working at our capacity and our pods are completely full. The children have settled into the new routines and are adapting well to the new ways of working.

Speaking in the House of Commons on Tuesday last week, Gavin Williamson (Education Secretary) confirmed that the government is not able to open primaries to all children for a month before the summer holidays, as was previously announced. We understand that this will have come as a significant disappointment for families and we too share this sentiment. However, it is essential that when we open our doors more widely, we are all confident we are doing so safely.

Many of you will now be thinking of September and what school may look like then. It is important to note that the DfE have not yet confirmed plans for September and many lengthy decisions will need to be made about both the medium and longer-term provision in England. As further DfE guidance is released, we will work closely with the Trust to formulate our plans for Nansledan School and we will communicate these with you as soon as we are possibly able. Rest assured, we are doing what we can to prepare for the future and plan for transition back into school.

In the meantime, our children and families who are not currently in school with us, remain firmly in our thoughts and we want to assure you that we will keep developing our home-learning materials and invite you all to use Google Classrooms to engage more with teachers. Teachers are able to view the work submitted by pupils and provide comments and feedback. We have loved the opportunity to see some of the fantastic learning projects that have been submitted by photo, file or video and are pleased at the response to our recent Science Challenge and storytelling sessions (#storytellingnanners) and look forward to next week's events for the Virtual School Games #nansledanvsg2020.

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We understand that supporting your child's learning at home while juggling everything else that life is throwing at you is a juggling act and want to support you as best we can. With this in mind, please contact the school office if you are having any difficulty accessing Google Classroom. You can do this through a quick phone call or by emailing hello@nansledanschool.org

Thank you for your support in delivering home learning programmes so far, whether this be online or offline, the suggested tasks or your own valuable real-life learning opportunities. We have enjoyed hearing reports of children learning to cook a spaghetti Bolognese, learning to tell the time, playing shop with real money or growing their own vegetables. Thank you for the comments, photographs and videos you have shared with us. We will share some of these through our newsletter and social media platforms.

We hope that you and all of your families continue to stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs Vicky Dilnot

Head of School

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