

26th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Updates

- So much work has been going on behind the scenes that will soon come to fruition; we are really excited about sharing all of the strategies that we are developing to support our School community, both in the short and long term.
- We continue to follow the government's guidance on how to implement social distancing in an educational settings as well as overall guidance for social distancing -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

- Please can we also draw your attention to the guidance that exists for households, so as to ensure everyone's safety -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

- It is advised that "The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport." Please ensure that you are good role models to your children by doing this alongside them.
- We have been inundated with enquiries today re. free school meals. Rest assured, all eligible families who requested free school meals support in the original parent survey that we sent out, have been issued with supermarket vouchers for the 8 day period prior to the Easter holidays. If these vouchers haven't already arrived, they will be with you shortly. If you are eligible for free school meals and now require support, please contact the School via email on office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk. The government is exploring strategies to help Schools make this a more effective system after Easter.
- We launched a video campaign on our Social Media and website today, which focuses on our 'aims', an outline of how we will achieve these, and the 'trademark behaviours' or values that are the bedrock of our provision (now and moving forwards). If you've any feedback on all of this, please let us know!

- Here's a bit of an explanation about our 'trademark behaviours'. They help define 'what we are all about' and connect us all.

'Trademark Behaviours'

'Together Stronger'

We all play a small but vital role in both the Five Acre Wood and the wider community.
When we work together we are at our best.
#TogetherStronger



'Community Matters'

Our community looks and feels very different at the moment, but we will evolve. Reach out to those in your class, in your school and in your local community, so that together we continue to raise exceptional children.
#CommunityMatters



'Being The Difference'

It's often the small things that we do that matter the most to the people around us. Take the time to help someone out, even if you think they don't need it.
#BeingTheDifference



Thank you for the many wonderful messages of support and thanks we have received from families and staff; it is an absolute honour and privilege to serve such an amazing community.

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team