



Charnock Hall Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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Friday 8th January 2021

Headteacher: Mr P M Burgess - NPQH

Weekly Newsletter Update – WEEK 16

Dear Parent/Carer,

Well, what a difference a week makes! Before anything else, I just want to thank every single one of you for being so helpful, considerate and understanding as we work our way through this situation, with very limited, late and often contradictory guidance. The messages of support through email, social media and in person have been greatly appreciated!

I can assure you that staff and I are ready for the opportunity to take a step back from all that has happened this week and reflect on the positives and development points for how we have handled the situation so far.

Covid update

We have now re-entered a national lockdown and as such, the advice is that wherever possible everyone should remain at home. The timing of the Prime Ministers announcement has ensured that schools, parents and children have been left in limbo and with significant uncertainty, which is not helpful for anyone. Due to this and the timing of the late announcement on Monday, I had no option to close CHPA on Tuesday, so we could be as prepared for KW, VP and remote online learning from Wednesday, as possible. It was a very last resort, so thanks once again for your understanding of this.

Since the announcement on Monday, we received no updated guidance or information from the Department for Education and central Government until late on Thursday, which in my opinion is far too slow. Unfortunately the guidance received, once again contains many contradictions, which the Trust, Sheffield CC and Leaders at CHPA are trying to interpret. This is why I have had to share so many communications with you this week as the response has needed to be in line with any information received from different organisations. I hope that my communications will be less frequent as we all get used to living and working in lockdown once more and everyone is clear with what is happening.

Health & Safety

Through this week as information and guidance has developed, Risk Assessments have been reviewed, further reviewed and then reviewed again to ensure we have structures and procedures in place to support the ongoing health and safety of all at CHPA. For those parents who do come on to site, the procedures we had in place before are all still pertinent.

- Please wear facemasks at all times.
- Follow the 1-way systems.
- Maintain the recommended 2m distance between yourself and other adults.
- Pupils only need to bring a small lunch box (if they are sandwiches) and a small book bag containing their learning diary and book.
- On PE days, pupils come in their PE kit.

Remote Education (Online Learning)

Since September, schools have had a requirement to ensure that access to remote learning is available to those who are unable to attend school, particularly if isolating. Due to this further lockdown, the way staff have been organised ensures that on a daily basis, there is a dedicated member of staff to deliver and support online learning. As you know, at CHPA, we have only had a single bubble closure so far, there have been a relatively low number of pupils required to isolate, and therefore the need for this online learning has been limited.

However, lockdown places us in a different situation and due to the high importance on the education for all, this is why we have a teacher from each year group to oversee and facilitate this requirement. There is already some challenging work on there, but over the next week, this will be significantly developing as we find clear balances and strategies that support those learning at home. Every school is approaching remote learning differently, as there is no prescribed way to approach it. We have made the decision at this time to provide video teaching for pupils, but this is pre-recorded and not live. This decision has been made for a number of reasons and I will explain this reasoning in a communication with you early next week.

The expectations from government are that schools provide the opportunities to learn and pupils must complete this at home – which I appreciate will be difficult for some.

I will also contact you next week in regards to availability and use of electronic device to support accessibility to online learning.

There are also a number of resources you can access at home to help your child –

BBC Bitesize

BBC programming – this starts from Monday, on BBC2 I believe, where shows in the morning will have an educational purpose.

Twinkl - <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>



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Here is a reminder of the email addresses to contact teachers on over the next week, if you have any questions about remote or in school learning - Miss Johnson / Mrs Nicholls - Class 1 - class1teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Hunt - Class 2 - class2teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mrs Duffy / Mrs Whiteley - Class 3 - class3teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mr Brown - Class 4 - class4teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Brookes - Class 5 - class5teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Hilton - Class 6 - class6teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mrs Leversidge / Mrs Ezard - Class 7 - class7teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Copley - Class 8 - class8teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mr Gabbitas - Class 9 - class9teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Stringer - Class 10 - class10teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mr Silvertown - Class 11 - class11teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Miss Monger - Class 12 - class12teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mr Stevens - Class 13 - class13teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Mr Stewart - Class 14 - class14teacher@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Additionally, for those parents who have children with Special Educational Needs (SEND), the senco@charnockhallacademy.co.uk is also available.

Please be aware of the following acceptable terms of use –

Any inappropriate use of the email system, including inappropriate language use, threats etc., will result in you being unable to use this system as a communication method. Anything deemed inappropriate by an individual teacher, will be shared with Senior Leaders, who will take appropriate action to protect staff.

Copies of all emails received and sent will be saved to ensure the safety of staff.

Laptop, PC and Tablet Plea

As shared on social media last night, the government has promised us a number of laptops to share with those who are having difficulty connecting to online learning but this time we have received a very small amount. We also have some additional devices we have purchased to support those who do not have access to this resource. As explained above, early next week, I will be liaising with you to check the availability of appropriate devices for every household. However, demand may exceed our current supply and as a result, I am asking if anyone is able to donate any unwanted devices, so we can prepare and share them with families who may need them. I have already had 6 devices donated, which is extremely kind, so thank you. If you can help, please bring them to main reception.

2021 National Assessments

Due to the new lockdown, the government has announced that all national assessments for children in primary education have been cancelled. This includes the Y1 Phonics Screening Check, Y2 SATs and Y6 SATs. However, it is the intention that these will be reintroduced in 2022.

In our opinion it is correct that these have been cancelled, however, that does not remove our drive that every child should be the best they can be, so the challenges and expectations we have of them will continue to be high.

Free School Meals

I will share more information regarding Free School Meals next week.

Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity

Although it seems a very long time ago now, I just wanted to share that we raised a staggering £1415.44 from our fundraising in support of Sheffield Children's Hospital.

Government Petition

Below is the link to a petition to Government to try and make them reconsider vaccinating education staff. I have signed it and there are now around 350,000 signatures too. As a result of the number of signatures received already, it is being discussed in Parliament on Monday 11th Jan. If you support this idea, please follow the link attached and sign. In my opinion, the sooner school staff are vaccinated, it creates a clear opportunity for all pupil to return to the classroom and continue their learning!
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/554316>

Thanks

On behalf of all the staff, thank you once again for all your support this week, who thought 2021 would be so chaotic and we are only in the 8th day!!! As they say on Strictly, "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!" **That's it for today and for this week.**

Take care and stay safe!

Mr P M Burgess & all the staff at CHPA