



BEACONSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Beaconsfield Road, Southall UB1 1DR

Email: admin@beaconsfield.ealing.sch.uk

Website: www.beaconsfieldprimary.org.uk

Tel: 020 8574 3506 Head Teacher: Mr D. Woods



12th January 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Re: Update to school closure due to 'variant Covid'

It has been an unwelcome start for everyone to the new term with schools given extremely late notice to switch to remote learning whilst we were already closed for the holiday period. I am grateful for the work of staff last week to quickly get hard-copy work packs ready for distribution so that the first packs were able to be collected on the afternoon of Monday 4th January (the first day of term) and the remainder available from the Tuesday morning.

We send our "timed-slots" for year groups to collect work to try to prevent long waiting periods and to assist with maintaining social distancing during the collections. Work packs are then always available to be collected if you are not able to come during the initial allocated time. Additional work packs will be available on Thursday and Friday of this week (14th & 15th January). Collection time slots will be sent via text message beforehand.

(1) Access through "myUSO" and "TEAMS"

All pupils already have access to the "myUSO" range of resources as recommended by class teachers and the available resources have been increased for pupils. If you have an issue with a 'logon' or 'password', please do email emergency@beaconsfield.ealing.sch.uk and be sure to include your CHILD'S FULL NAME and CLASS NAME.

All classes have now also been set-up for "live sessions" using **TEAMS**. This does involve a slightly different password which will be sent you via text message. At present trial live sessions have taken place with Year 6, Year 5 and Year 4 classes. Remain year groups, Year 3, 2 and 1 will have their first trial meeting sessions before Friday 15th January.

In the week 18th – 22nd January we will be hosting up to three TEAMS sessions for each year group and then from Monday 25th January the plan is to move to a daily TEAMS session for each year group. Please do continue to check the school website (www.beaconsfieldprimary.org.uk) for further updates on TEAMS sessions for each year group.

(2) Government IT Device access program

There is a mistaken understanding of government announcements on access to IT devices. **The government IS NOT PROVIDING FREE IT DEVICES for all pupils**. There are approx. 11.4 million children in the UK and the government program that is discussed in the media has an aim of giving out up to 1 million devices. To date only half of that number has been given out. Once the rollout is completed the government scheme will still be 10.5 million devices below the pupil population.

This scheme DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY DEVICES for pupils below Year 3 age and those in KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6) are eligible if they receive "free school meals" (FSM) or if the family is actively involved in a social care case.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



Please see the additional information about this scheme and an option to increase data allowances that is already on the school website:

http://www.beaconsfieldprimary.org.uk/docs/IT_Loan_Device_options_Jan_21_1_.pdf

(3) Limited School Opening – Key-Worker and Vulnerable Group Pupils

School continues to be “open” for pupils from Nursery through to Year 6 for those parents who are key-workers and also those pupils in vulnerable groups. We have had small numbers of pupils on-site since Monday 4th January. If you do want to take up a place for child in either of these categories, please do email your request to: emergency@beaconsfield.ealing.sch.uk .

In line with government regulations, many staff must currently work from home and as such the school site is running with a limited number of staff. We must ask you to ensure you register for a place prior to attending.

Please also note that pupils **who do not have access to an IT device within the home** can also apply for a place to continue to attend school on-site for their learning.

(4) Food Parcels for those eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)

If your child is eligible for “free school meals”, you will have already been contacted to ask if you wanted to receive a food parcel to cover lunch provisions for your child. Thank you for returning the responses quickly to the office staff to enable these parcels to be ordered.

At the present time only “food parcels” are available to cover free school meal provision. **There IS NO VOUCHER SCHEME at this time.**

(5) Finally

I wanted to again thank you all for the support, positive comments and also concern for school staff during this latest stage of the pandemic. It continues to be a very difficult and testing time for us all as we wait and hope that the vaccine roll-out will enable us to return to a more normal way of working.

Please do continue to check for updates on the school website as the school is also very aware that we cannot continue to bombard you with multiple text messages to get messages across. I hope that once we have the class TEAMS sessions running regularly that any work concerns, queries and questions can be addressed directly each time with the class teacher.

Please ensure you follow the social distancing and hygiene rules over the weeks ahead. Stay safe and hopefully stay well.

Kind regards & best wishes



Mr D Woods
Head Teacher



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON

