



**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we start another week, I want to reiterate my sincere thanks to everyone once again for your support with many aspects of school. The current school closure for most children has again brought many challenges for everyone in our community.

It has therefore been wonderful to see the children embrace their remote learning. I am personally looking forward to meeting with each class this week and seeing the children during some virtual class assemblies as the week goes on. The children really have been amazing at switching to this style of learning and I would like to say how proud everyone in school is of them all and say a big thank you for their continued excellent attitudes. I also would like to thank all of our families for supporting the children with their learning at home, as we do everything we can to ensure the best for all children in these unprecedented times.

As we begin this week I ask everyone to please note the 5 key reminders below.

### **1. Critical Worker Care**

As a school we are running provision for children of critical workers. As I have said previously, the staff and I are committed to this provision. In the Government's guidance for this provision they do state "**Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.**" We continue to be incredibly appreciative of the many people who have taken such steps and worked around their shift patterns for the exact emergency provision they need, as this reduces numbers of children in the school at this time. We are asking everyone to continue review their needs to see if their place in school is **absolutely necessary**.

Alongside our comprehensive risk assessments, we want to ensure there is as little an opportunity for any transmission of Covid-19 through less people in school. This is in support of the national lockdown and Government advice of **stay at home** whenever possible, **including the children of critical workers**.

It is also important to continue to stress, the more children we have in school impacts on our capacity to provide remote learning, as staff are now running two different systems for teaching and learning. All children at home are receiving the same learning as the children in school.

If you feel that your needs have changed please send an email through to:

[bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk)

## 2. Remote learning

Remote learning is continuing to work well within our prepared policies and systems. In particular, thank you to everyone for making live learning sessions work so well. I would like to remind everyone of some key points for our live zoom sessions:

- Attendance at these sessions is crucial for every child. We are monitoring attendance carefully and if your child is not involved in our virtual classrooms or completing work we will be in touch to support you in resolving any concerns.
- It is also important to enter the waiting room **5 minutes** before the timetabled session. This enables teachers to monitor attendance and to ensure the lesson runs smoothly. When children enter the session late, it does make delivering the lesson extremely difficult and staff may not always be able to admit children who miss the start of the zoom lesson.
- ***The children's conduct on line has been superb.*** I would like to remind everyone that ensuring children are **not** eating whilst online, sat in an appropriate way and wearing appropriate attire is also important and supportive of children being focussed.

## 3. Online safety

Online safety is a **crucial** part of all aspects of school. This is just as important when children are learning at home, perhaps taking on even greater importance if they are spending more time online.

[Please click here to access our Online Safety resources and support.](#) It is incredibly worth-while taking a short time to view these resources.

## 4. Well-being

The wellbeing of everyone at this time is also crucial. [Please click here to access our resources and support tools.](#) You will find useful tips on helping your children to structure their day and support your children during changes that may be happening.

## 5. School Dinners

For all children accessing remote learning at home and are not attending critical worker provision in school, all payments made to LCC for school dinners and milk **from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February** will carry forward as a credit amount to be used towards future payments when school reopens.

For children accessing our critical worker provision and using the school meal option on certain days, any payments for dinners not taken will also carry forward.

*If you would like a refund instead, please send an email request to [bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk)*

I'd like to wish you all well and look forward to seeing your children on Zoom as the week unfolds.

Mr D Kennedy

**Head teacher**