

Shirley Infant School

Headteacher

Mrs C Gregory
B.Ed Early Years



Deputy Headteacher

Laura Watts
B.A Hon Primary Education

TEL: 01329 4477 5057



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Shirley Junior School

Headteacher

Mrs A Hixon
B.Ed Hons NPQH



Deputy Headteacher

Jo Tearle
PGCE, BEng, MSc

TEL: 01329 4477 4104

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your understanding and support at this very challenging and difficult time. We know many of you are facing very challenging decisions and significant hardship already and for that we would like to remind you we are here for you and continue to support you even remotely. We would like to remind you of the Designated Safeguarding Lead in both schools:

Infant – Cate Gregory
Junior – Annette Hixon

If you have any concerns of the safeguarding of our children whilst in the community, please contact the named DSL using the email below:

Please remember you can contact us on the following emails:

Karen Allen, family support worker – Karen.allan@shirleyschools.co.uk

Infants – infantinfo@shirleyschools.co.uk

Junior – juniorinfo@shirleyschools.co.uk

As of today the government has issued the guidance that formal education from the national curriculum will **stop**, however, we will continue to support your children in practicing their key skills from the curriculum already taught. Children who are in school will be covering the same basic skills and project activities each day that will be published on the website. The websites already have a list of useful learning website links to support you and some areas to support your child's essential skills for their learning.

Next week we wish for the children to have some space to come to terms with what has happened for them. They will need time to adjust to new routines and expectations. Please don't put extra pressure at this time on yourselves and your children, all we have learned about mental health still applies. The curriculum we teach is not the be all and end all in education. Step away for a few days and have the confidence to develop other skills with your children: play board games; do some gardening, try out new recipes; learn a language together use this week to spend time talking to your children, playing games, getting some fresh air and adjusting to a new home life.

As of 30th March teachers will upload weekly learning to the website to supplement this. Our approach to this learning will be uploaded each Monday morning for the week. The children you will be given a range of learning tasks including literacy, reading, maths and project. We are currently investigating and selecting the best online learning tools which we will give you further information on next week.

Keeping up exercise regular is really important, here are two links you can use next week with your children:

PE with Joe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6r99N3kXME>

Cosmic Kids Yoga

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

We have provided the children with an exercise book to complete their task, please note we do not expect you to print the all sheets, children can copy into their books if you do not have a printer. Unfortunately we cannot guide the children or give individual targeted learning as we would in school, but we will try to ensure there is a range of differentiated tasks to suit your child's ability.

We want your children to know we are thinking of them and care about what they are doing. Your class teacher will communicate with you and your child using Marvellous Me. If parents would like to ask the school any questions, please use the info@ emails above.

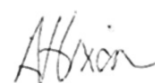
The schools do plan to send out a written school report before the end of the academic year. The report will replace the cancelled parents evening and will report on how your child has progressed up until this point. With this report there will be a teacher assessment of how they have achieved against the curriculum that has been taught up until this point.

This is such a hard letter for us to write, parting ways so abruptly with our young people at this time is heartbreaking. Please listen to government guidance and listen to the social distancing advice. We wish you all a very safe journey going forward and we so look forward to seeing you all back hopefully at some point in the summer term.

With the warmest of best wishes to each and everyone of our families,



Cate Gregory
Headteacher, Shirley Infant



Annette Hixon
Headteacher, Shirley Junior

And the whole of our Shirley Schools Team