



Mercia School
Carter Knowle Road
Sheffield
S7 2DY

Telephone 0114 5539080
enquiries@merciaschool.com
www.merciaschool.com

Headteacher: Mr Dean Webster
Chair of Governors: Mrs Rhona Dodds

Our ref: DW/GD

13 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family are well in these unsettling times.

We are desperate to get all Mercia children back to school. The staff and I are missing them deeply and want to get back to some sort of normality as soon as possible. We wait on the government guidance, as you do, for further details. I will update you in due course.

I want to express our appreciation to all pupils, for the sheer determination and diligence they have given to their studies. The character traits of self-regulation and discipline have really come to the fore. When comparing to other schools, our pupils are unrivalled in their application to their studies. As a school, we are third in the country in the Hegarty maths league table, for questions answered correctly per child. In French, we are in the top 20 of worldwide competitors in the LanguageNut. This is truly brilliant, I am so proud of all our pupils. If they keep it up, maybe we will top the league tables. This determination should be a point of pride for all of us.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers. You have been brilliant in ensuring your child has had some kind of routine and I recognise you have given them as much support as possible. The staff and I totally understand the challenges in society at the moment, including the impact of reduced wages, loss of employment and bereavement. We are here to support where we can, please use the contact details in the '*working at home*' guidance on the website if you need to make contact.

To recognise the incredible work achieved and to provide new exciting work, we have organised a 'collection day' for pupils and/or parents.

Pupils are to return their completed work so we can recognise their accomplishments. This will be a simple drop off. At the same time pupils will receive 4 weeks' worth of new work with clear instructions and deadlines. However, we recognise not all pupils work at the same pace and some may take longer. This is also a good time for us to have face to face time with pupils to ensure they are well and are motivated to keep going.

We will not be setting holiday homework for the forthcoming half term break. We recognise the need for pupils to take a break to boost their mental health and wellbeing at this time. I am sure you'll be supportive of this.

Please be reassured that the 'collection day' will adhere to all government safety and social distancing guidance. The measures we will administer on 'collection day' will be similar to those rules observed in the

supermarket. We have tape, corridor dividers and a one-way system to ensure social distancing, keeping children and staff safe.

The dates and times for collection in Mastery groups are as follows:

Tuesday 19 May at Mercia School

7A Miss L Heritage 10am - 11am

7B Miss C McKenna 12pm - 1pm

7C Ms C Bolton 2pm - 3pm

Wednesday 20 May at Mercia School

7D Mr J Berry 10am - 11am

7E Mr J Jewell 12pm - 1pm

8A Ms L McKevitt 2pm - 3pm

8B Mr B Drury 4pm - 5pm

Thursday 21 May at Mercia School

8C Mr D Dunn 10am - 11am

8D Miss R Ellis 12pm - 1pm

8E Mr T Bannan 2pm - 3pm

It is important pupils arrive during their designated time slot to ensure the 'collection day' is well organised. A member of staff will be at the front of school to direct your child. All pupils should travel to school independently and are not required to wear Mercia uniform.

I understand not all pupils will be able to attend as they are in the high-risk group or may have someone in the family who is shielding. Equally, collection is prohibited for those who have any symptoms of the virus.

Therefore, please contact enquiries@merciaschool.com to make alternative arrangements if you fall into one of these categories.

Finally, Mercia Learning Trust are asking parents to take part in a survey to evaluate the provisions during school closures. All schools have different approaches and a collation of views may help the Trust moving forward. If you wish to take part, a link to the survey can be found on the update page of the school website.

Thank you for your continued support and I would like to extend my best wishes to you all. The staff and I look forward to seeing pupils and giving them a much-needed boost.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Webster
Headteacher