



**Dog Kennel Hill Primary School**  
East Dulwich  
London  
SE22 8AB

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18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the government guidance on the 28<sup>th</sup> May, we have welcomed back **Year 1, Year 6, Reception and Nursery starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> June onwards**. Over the last few weeks, we have been in contact with parents through emails, surveys or telephone calls in order to make arrangements for the children's return. Now that we know exactly how many children have returned in these year groups, the school now needs to make decision on the maximum number of children the school can accommodate with the current guidance on social distancing.

As a school, we will continue to make provision for children of critical workers and other eligible pupils. Following the many guidance papers from the Department of Education (DfE), we have been working relentlessly to prepare for the safety and welfare of our pupils and staff. We shared this plan with all parents before the May Half term break so parents had the opportunity to read through and make an informed decision about whether or not they would like to send their children back to school. We have also provided videos for parents to use with their children to help them with the transition back to school.

The government have now acknowledged that it will not be possible for children from **Year 2 to Year 5** to return before the end of the Summer Term and have left it to schools to determine how many children they can accommodate safely based on each school's specific circumstances. I understand that many parents and children from Year 2 to Year 5 may feel worried about the announcement and we wanted to explain the situation here at DKH.

As the number of critical worker children returning to school each week is increasing, we do not have the capacity to accept another full year group back at school and still follow the social distancing guidelines which the government has set out. We will therefore only be accepting children into the critical worker bubbles from now.

In the absence of any further guidance or instruction around this, I thought I would write to parents to reassure them of what is currently in place and what will continue to be in place for children who are not onsite. We are also proposing some new additions to help support parents with remote learning further.

### **What is in place and will continue to be in place moving forward for those children in Year 2-5 or those not attending**

#### **Remote Learning**

We recognise that it has been challenging for parents to manage remote learning, working from home and family life during the lockdown. This is why we have worked on a range of both online and offline learning options based on the needs of our community. We appreciate the many positive comments we have received about how this has been managed and would like to thank you as parents for supporting your children at home.

Based on parental feedback throughout lockdown, class teachers will continue to provide a wide range of different online learning to suit different preferences. Pupils in school will follow the same learning.

- For parents who prefer a teacher presenting the lesson we provide year group appropriate links to Oak Academy Learning. Teaching that is directed by a teacher.





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- Some parents have asked for more step by step support when teaching Maths and English, the teachers will now be uploading PowerPoints to the website to help you with this.
- For parents who prefer more game based learning for the children we provide links to Maths and English games.
- For parents who prefer a paper copy of the weekly learning we provide photo copied packs that parents then collect from school. Parents can continue to request this and the packs will be made up and ready for collection on a **Tuesday afternoon after 2:00pm**.
- For parents who prefer more practical activities we have provided links to science, art and topic work.
- For parents and children who prefer to stick to a timetabled approach every year group has a weekly suggested timetable with links to lessons and or activities.
- We have also provided examples of timetables to help parents structure the day for their child/ren.
- We will be doing an assembly or story book reading regularly via a recorded video that can be found on our blog.

## Communication

Class teachers have set up class emails and send out weekly emails to all parents.

- Children can upload their work or any activities that they have been doing and email their teacher for feedback.
- Parents can also use the email to communicate with teachers about their child's learning and or wellbeing.
- Parents may also request a call from teachers via the class email if this is required.
- Parents can continue to use the class emails to communicate any issues relating to the remote learning and the teacher will be able to respond and support when needed.
- The safeguarding team and inclusion team have been calling families (many families on a weekly basis).
- Parents can contact the school via the school number on 0207 274 1829 or email to [school@dkh.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:school@dkh.southwark.sch.uk) if you would like to discuss or communicate with staff in school.





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### Food Vouchers

- We will continue to provide the Edenred Vouchers to eligible families whose children **do not** attend school. Children who are returning to school will not be getting the full allocation of £15 per week but instead will receive £10 per week.
- We are relieved that the government has agreed to pay for food vouchers over the summer holiday period, we will keep you informed of how this will work towards the end of this term.
- Any family that would like to request a packed lunch can do so as Southwark has provided funding for this. Parents continue to complete the weekly survey and collect the packed lunch at 12:30 from the school office. This will only be available until the end of term. Should parents need support over the summer holidays please contact the school directly and we can put you in touch with local charities.

### **We are constantly looking at improving and doing more for our children. We are looking to do the following:**

#### Communication

Children not attending school will now be called by their teacher every 2 – 3 weeks. We are also working to set up Windows Teams to allow whole classes to meet at least once a week to facilitate contact and an opportunity to socialise with each other (from a distance). Our IT company is currently in the process of organising this so we will hopefully be able to share more information with you soon. Teachers will be using the email addresses they have been sending the weekly emails to, if you are not receiving these, please contact the school so we can update the information we have on our system.

We are currently liaising with an external provider with regards a summer holiday provision programme and will shortly carry out a survey to determine interest. We will send out more information in the next few days.

We hope this gives some clarity on what we are currently providing for those children not attending school. We will constantly review and revisit our provision and we welcome your feedback. It is regrettable that we are finding ourselves in this position but I want to assure you that we are doing all we can to support our school community as best we can in these unchartered waters.

Yours sincerely,

Ms L. Hillier  
Head of School

