

Ransom Road
Woodbridge
Suffolk
IP12 4JX

Telephone: 01394 385720
mail@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk
www.farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk

AS/kl

Tuesday 24th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As all of us in the Farlingaye community adapt to the new realities of our extraordinary situation, I would like to bring all of you up-to-date on a number of important matters. If you have any questions about any of the information presented here, please do get in touch with me (asiewwright@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk).

Firstly, I would like to stress that the school does remain open to the children of Key Workers who are not able to provide supervision by any means other than sending children into school. We have a large number of staff who are volunteering to come and support those students on a rota basis, to ensure that the provision is sustainable in the medium to long-term. While in school we will practise social distancing to the greatest extent possible and will implement rigorous hygiene. If you have not already registered as a Key Worker and have not requested a place for your child, or if you have registered but your circumstances have changed and you wish to alter the hours during which your child will attend school, please do email me at Farlingaye.

We are also intent on making provision for our Free Schools Meals students. We have bought in enough Co-op vouchers for two weeks for every Free School Meals student in the school and will distribute these by post today. We will continue to send out vouchers every two weeks until the school reopens. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, you do not need to do anything to receive the vouchers. They will automatically be sent to you. If you do not receive vouchers, and believe that your child is entitled to them, please contact us.

Please note that we have received information suggesting that at least some vocational qualifications are likely to be certificated this year. **That means it is vital that any Year 11 or Year 13 students following a vocational course finishes off any assignments that are outstanding, and that they respond to requests or instructions from their teachers for work or for information.** If students have specific questions about assignments they should contact their teachers or course leaders via email.

If students are working at home, we would ask them to continue to access the materials available through our website and through the links that they will already have been given. If they are not able to access systems or materials, please ask them to contact the school using this address: ithelpdesk@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk.

More resources and tasks will be added for students as we go along, and we are looking to develop interactive learning approaches that utilise fully the technology available to us. More details on this will follow. Please do keep checking the school website for any news. One additional resource that may be of use to you is the bank of materials for English, maths and science provided by Century Learning. Century have agreed to make these 'free-to-use' for the duration of the national school closures. Payment details are requested during sign up but Century have confirmed that "you will not be charged". The website address for Century is as follows:

<https://www.century.tech/explore-century/secondary-schools/>.

We are aware that some families have not been able to source access to a suitable device to allow their child to work online. As a medium-term solution to this problem, the school would be able to lend a small number of laptops to students for home use. If you would be interested in borrowing a school laptop for your child, please contact me at Farlingaye.

The school has received a number of enquiries from families regarding refunds of payments made for Activities Week events and other summer term trips. While I do understand the urgent nature of these requests in some cases, I would ask families to be patient at this stage regarding refunds, as we have to wait for the companies involved in running events and trips to cancel them in order for money already paid to be refunded to the school. If and when these cancellations are put in place we will, of course, pass on the refunds to families as quickly as possible.

As we enter a new phase of the country's response to the coronavirus crisis, it is, I am sure, increasingly hard for you and your children to imagine normal school life restarting. However, we know that Farlingaye will be Farlingaye again at some point in the future. In the meantime, please do stay in touch, please do encourage your children to learn, and please do stay positive about the bright future they can all have in education and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Andy Sievewright
Headteacher