



Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here we go again! After the Prime Ministers announcement last night, we've had to move quickly to ensure that our blended learning plan is ready for delivery. Therefore, please find below arrangements as from today and until at least February Half Term! As always, a huge thank you to those of you that have wished us well and showed their support to the school – it is massively appreciated.

School is closed

School is officially closed from today. For the majority of children, that means they will be learning from home from today (good luck everyone!). For children of key workers, school will be offering a provision of:

Monday to Friday 8:45am – 3:30pm - school is open for vulnerable children and children of key workers

School will have been in touch today if you qualify as a vulnerable family and you will have been offered a place in the provision also. If we haven't been in touch, please be assured that your children need to stay at home.

Children Staying at Home

For those children who are staying at home for the foreseeable future, we will revert to our online learning plan. Each phase (EYFS, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2) is creating a detailed plan so that you know when you need to interact with your child's class teacher and what learning there is for the children to do. Please look out for a text from your specific year group which will have the link to the letter with all the details of the learning on it. All learning will be put on the home learning page of the school website (<https://www.moorgateacademy.co.uk/home-learning>), this weeks is there already, and if you would like a paper copy of the work that children have to complete, please let us know in advance so that it can be prepared for you. Additionally, we have a small allocation of laptops in school which can be loaned to support your child's learning at home. We have only got 5 at the moment but I have applied for more. I'll update you on this when I can.

Please be assured, as per government advice, by not coming to school, your children are not missing out. The children will be interacting with staff via zoom (whether they are in school or at home) and we will be delivering a core curriculum to ensure their learning is ticking over.

Children eligible for free school meals (applied for through the school office) can access a voucher much as they did on the summer of last year and we will be in touch as soon as we can with more details on this.

Children Coming to School

For the children of key workers that simply cannot arrange other childcare, we are open. Children are expected to come in school uniform. Likewise, staff will be dressed professionally and ready for learning. This provision will run from today for the duration of the current lockdown. **School will have approved your place today if you are eligible for this provision.** It is imperative that we know when you require the provision. We would like you to 'book' the sessions that you require and stick to those sessions. If there is a change in your circumstances and you don't require the provision, please talk to us about this.



For this provision, all children will enter and leave through the main entrance (only a limited part of the building will be accessible). School will follow 'normal' procedures for attendance throughout this period. If we are expecting your child in school (because you have booked the session) and they don't arrive, we will contact you to provide a reason for their absence.

We have also ensured that children will be having a meal whilst they are in school; children are still able to bring in a packed lunch with them if they would like. The menus will offer a hot and cold option and again, when I have more information on this, I'll let you know.

Zoom Sessions

From next week, each phase will have a daily briefing and follow up opportunities for children to interact with the teacher. It is imperative that children are "ready" for these sessions. That means, we expect children to be:

- Punctual (on the zoom call on time)
- Appropriately dressed (fully clothed and dressed - not in pyjamas)
- In an appropriate space for quality learning (no TV on in the background, not in their bedroom and not in the car going somewhere (yes really –this happened last year!!))

These sessions are quality learning sessions and we appreciate your support in creating a good home learning environment for the children. We saw some awesome home school spaces last year – let's have more of them please.

Keeping in touch with school

School will be operating with full staffing during this period and we are endeavouring to ensure that we are there for you when you need us. Either Mrs. Eaglefield, myself or both of us will be in school every day and will make ourselves available. Likewise, the school office will be open every day between the hours of 8:30am – 4pm. We will all still be answering emails, voicemails, messages etc. as soon as we can.

Likewise, you can still keep in touch with your class teacher via the class email system. As a reminder, the email address is class@moorgateacademy.co.uk (next to class you need your child's class name a, b, c etc.). We will also be adding things to the website often and posting on social media. We will also be sending out messages to our families via text to keep in touch.

I want to stress that my advice to you is to always follow the government guidance. Where possible, stay at home and keep your children at home. Wash your hands often, abide by social distancing rules and self-isolate if you are showing symptoms. This is an unprecedented situation and we are all working around the clock at the moment to provide a service which supports the national effort.

Take care, stay safe and hope to see you all back in school when all this is over.

My kindest and most sincere regards,

Mr. J. Williams (Headteacher)



STAYING IN TOUCH:

If you have any queries about your child's learning and friendships, your child's class teacher is your first port of call. Please direct any enquires to them.

Any complaints or compliments will be handled by Mr. Williams and Mrs. Eaglefield.

The school office is open from 8.30am until 4pm daily. Mrs Mitchell & Mrs Swindell will be able to help you with any administrative / lunch enquiries that you may have. You can also follow and communicate with the school in a variety of other ways outside of these times!

If there are any issues you are having at home that you require support with, Mrs. Shaw is our Early Help Leader. Her contact details are below.

Website: www.moorgateacademy.co.uk

Twitter: @moorgateacademy
#AchieveChallengeEnjoy

App: Download from the App Store (Apple) or Play Store (Android)

Telephone: 01827 215240

Mrs Mitchell office@moorgateacademy.co.uk

Mr. Williams headteacher@moorgateacademy.co.uk

Mrs Eaglefield deputy@moorgateacademy.co.uk

Mrs Shaw f.shaw@moorgateacademy.co.uk