

COVID Response News

Remote learning update

You will now have had chance to review our sustainable learning plan via School Ping. We hope you have signed up with permissions for your young person to join the distance learning. This is aimed at maintaining consistency in their access to school work and support. The plan also takes into consideration any safeguarding concerns to ensure a safe approach for all pupils. If you have not accepted permissions we will be in touch this week. Please note that this is not the same as social media but a method of digital access that will support all pupils to learn at home, regardless of current device access or parental IT skills. We can help with any needs you have in this area. We are planning to send all pupils home with their school iPad so they can access the learning tasks throughout the term.

We need all your Ping responses about the sustainable learning plan asap so please check this in your app today or contact the office for a call back if you have any questions. There is also space on the declaration to highlight any other questions you have.

Parent support

Virtual meetings to share how the sustainable learning plan will work will begin shortly, to help parents navigate the digital elements of the new provision. You will be able to book your slots via School Ping in groups of limited number. This will also support you to access EHCP review meetings and any other video conferencing support you may need in the months ahead. New details about the EHCP process will come out very soon.

Big thank you!

Aiden in Socrates sadly lost his Grandad earlier in the year. He was always a great supporter of the school and often came to join in our events. We want to say a big thank you to Aiden's family who have given £400 to the school from funds collected at the funeral. We will let you know what we buy for the pupils with your kind donation.

Speech and language at home

In school we are beginning to use the Language Links assessment tool to support next steps for speech, language and communication development for pupils. This link takes you to the parent support portal produced by the same [Speechlink](#) website. You may find this a useful extra to work on at home.

Parking

The arrivals and departure routines have been working really well and the local parking situation has also improved significantly. We would also like to thank you all for bearing with us when the road works complicated things even further recently.

We are continuing to ask parents to avoid parking on Hazeloak Road wherever possible and if you do so, to ensure you park away from the gates and use the larger open spaces towards the Hurdis

Road end. Parking on adjacent roads is still the preferred option. Please also avoid parking half on the pavements, as this reduces access for pedestrians. We also ask that school traffic approaches Hazeloak Road from the Burman Road end and leaves in one direction towards Hurdis Road. This system helps create a one way flow of traffic with the added safety for our pedestrian pupils and parents and has also helped residents to use their driveway access. Finally, it's better to avoid the area close to the gates as we need buses and occasional ambulances to have ample turning space. All of this makes for a more fluid, swifter routine at both ends of the day.

The traffic enforcement team have also been supporting and have been out on Hazeloak road at the key times of the day. They have requested more school signs to be installed by the council, which we hope will come soon to help alert traffic to the safety needs of our school community.

Social media

The only response we can give to concerns about the abuse of this form of communication is for you to inform the police directly by calling 101. You should also ensure pupils block any offenders and if necessary remove their device altogether, if only for a trial period. The responsible use of social media and digital devices must be monitored at home. Check unsupervised internet time. You may also wish to keep your young people safe by installing parental control apps such as **MM Guardian** on family devices, see [this link button](#).

COVID update

In school we continue to follow our strict guidelines on hand washing, regular cleaning and use of the one way system. We have been pleased by recently received feedback from the few visiting professionals we have worked with in school, and from supply staff, stating that they have felt especially safe and secure in our setting due to the consistent structures and routines we have in place.

Thanks also to families dropping off and collecting on site, we appreciate your use of masks and maintaining social distancing at all times. It's a big help that everyone is working with us for the safety of the whole school community. We would also like to thank families for following the guidelines on isolating pupils at home for the 14 day period as set out in public health guidance. Please make sure once any period of isolation or illness is over, that all pupils are back in school. Any further days of absence will be unauthorised. The education and social interaction of all our pupils is essential and we need to see them for every day possible while they are well.

Stay safe.
Andy Simms
Head Teacher