

Monday 23rd March 2020

Dear Parents,

First of all thank you for all the words of thanks and supportive emails we received last week. Team ASPIRE have welcomed 19 pupils to the childcare offer this morning. This is less than had signed up so we thank you for making alternative arrangements and keeping children at home where possible. This is in line with government advice that pupils should only attend where necessary for parents to attend work.

Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) ‘You should only send your child to school, if you have to, because your work is critical to our COVID-19 response. If you are able to keep your child at home you should’



Social distancing at the ASPIRE childcare offer

The children attending have been split into four classrooms – year R, Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and year 5/6. Each group has a teacher and a teaching assistant. There is a maximum of 6 children in each classroom. Children have been asked to sit at separate tables and will be having their playtime in small groups. Lunch time will be together but with a maximum of 2 children per table and children will play in separate areas of the playground and field. Please support us by explaining to your child/ children that these measures are to ensure everyone’s safety. We will contact you as parents if your child becomes unwell and would appreciate them being collected as soon as possible.

Children in receipt of free school meals

If your children normally receive a free school meal at school because you have completed the relevant paperwork and you are in receipt of one of the below list we can help by providing a hot meal every day for your child/children if needed. We understand the financial strain this may put on your family during these difficult times.

Free school meal qualification

* Income Support
* income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance
* income-related Employment and Support Allowance
* support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
* Child Tax Credit (provided you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
* Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
* Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If the above applies to you and you need your child to be provided with a school dinner each day. Please contact Kingswood on 01622 842674 or me on [ehickling@aspirekent.org.uk](mailto:ehickling@aspirekent.org.uk)

This offer is for children who are entitled to a free school meal (not universal Key stage 1 ) and who are not attending the ASPIRE childcare offer.

Contacting ASPIRE

ASPIRE can be contacted on 01622 842674 between 8am and 4.30pm each day. If you have signed up to the ASPIRE childcare offer and your child won’t be attending, please let us know. If you have any queries about home learning please email the office of the school that your child attends.

Thank you for your support and for working with us during these challenging times.

Kind regards,

ER Hickling

Emma Hickling

Executive Headteacher

ASPIRE federation