



# KINGSLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kings Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5PS

Headteacher: Mr A Conway  
Deputy Head: Mrs J Payne

Tel: (01403) 254282  
Email: office@kingslea.org.uk

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

As you are aware the decision has been made to close schools, we will therefore have to close tomorrow at the end of the usual school day.

It is with considerable sorrow that we have to close. I have always said, we are a community school and closing the school feels like we are walking away from you at a time when we are needed most. We will continue to do what we can to support our community and our key workers and, even though we are being forced to close, we will still be here and looking to realign our role so we can provide support in whatever way we are directed by the government. We are not going anywhere!

I would again like to thank parents for the sensible, community-minded measures that you have shown and the thanks and support that teachers have received from yourselves. We have had offers of help, including from those of you who are now working from home but want to support our community. We may call on you!

We will now put into place our continuation of learning plan that was drafted a while back. This is a plan that will run up to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, what was meant to be the start of the Easter holidays. I am hoping that after Easter there will be a national education plan in place with companies like the BBC helping to provide education direction.

As we move to the next stage, please can I ask you to remember that our staff do have lives outside of school, families to care for and are also experiencing many of the issues you are contending with currently. Every one of our staff - be they a teacher, support staff, office, site and cleaning - have shown 100% commitment to keeping school open and supporting your children, even when government advice seem to have been contradictory. They are an extraordinary team to work with.

Our focus now is to allow children to continue with their academic learning, with your support, and for teachers and pupils to keep in contact. We are not aiming to replicate the school day but to give you tasks to do each day that will consolidate and guide new learning. We are also concerned about social isolation which is why we aim to send out a video each day from the year group.

Whilst we have been working on a school closure plan for a while, as teachers we are not as au fait with home working and online conferencing/working as some of you are, so please do bear with us if we don't quite get it right. We also have to take into account that some of our staff will be unwell and won't be able to communicate. We do have plans for this.

As we have said previously, our aim will be to communicate with you via Parentmail on a daily basis. The daily email will have a pdf document attached. This document will outline the work children should complete the following day and will have links to the year group and 'general' video albums where you can view all videos, including the latest ones in the top left.



Your children will have bought home their CGP Maths books (please remember to cut out the answers from the back of the book), extra reading books and possibly an exercise book to do their written work in.

To summarise:

- Year group staff will send home learning expectations via Parentmail during the afternoon for the work to be completed the following day.
- Home learning may include:
  - Maths workbooks and online learning (TTRockstars/Numbots/Sumdog/My Maths)
  - Reading of their book plus an activity
  - An English/Learning Journey project for the week, with clarification each day of what the children are to do.

Also attached to this email you will find a list of free, online learning websites including a fantastic one which allows you to do a virtual tour of major museums around the world and an example of a daily schedule, kindly sent in by one of our parents. We do think planning a daily schedule is particularly important for everyone in the home.

Parents and children will be able to communicate with teachers via the year group email address (see below). Teachers (as long as they are well) will check year group email addresses each morning.

- [reception@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:reception@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year1@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year1@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year2@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year2@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year3@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year3@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year4@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year4@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year5@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year5@kingslea.org.uk)
- [year6@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:year6@kingslea.org.uk)

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Designated Safeguarding Leaders on [dsl@kingslea.org.uk](mailto:dsl@kingslea.org.uk)

We are aware that during this time of closure of the school it can seem quite isolating and stressful for everyone. As part of our mental health support, one of our team may contact you on the phone to check in on your family's emotional well-being, to speak to your child and offer you a listening ear. Please inform the school via parentmail if you are planning on being away from the family home and uncontactable by phone. In certain circumstances staff may physically visit houses.

We will be on the gate as usual if there are any questions, or you can email the office.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we will open again the minute we are allowed to.

Alexis Conway and the staff of Kingslea

