



Westerton Primary Academy

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Leodis
Academies
Trust



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20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of children in EYFS,

First of all, please could I pass on our appreciation for all of the support you have shown in the past few days with regards to the unprecedented situation that we are all currently having to face.

As it stands, you will be aware that the Academy is closing this afternoon but will reopen next week for the most vulnerable children and those whose parents are keyworkers. You should have received a letter from Mrs Makin regarding this.

I am aware that many of you will be anxious about what the immediate future will look like and unfortunately we are not able to give any answers. We will of course, continue to take advice from the government and from Public Health England and as soon as we can re-open our doors to all children, we will certainly be doing just that.

Lots of parents have been asking about things that they can be doing to support their child's learning at home. This is fantastic and thank you for this. We are as keen as yourselves to try to ensure that every child continues to make progress and be prepared for the next stage of their learning. Although the children won't be at school (for how long, we just don't know), there are many, many ways in which they can be supported in their development either within the home or out and about in the natural world.

The majority of you have access to Tapestry and to the handful who currently don't, letters have been sent out today to you with all the information and details you will need to gain access. Tapestry will be our main form of communication in providing 'work'. The teachers will be sending out homework grids alongside lists of really great apps, websites and free subscriptions that could be used to support reading, writing and maths and as the staff uncover more useful resources, they will continue to direct you to them. Please do take a look at these resources as they are very good.

Please continue to share the wonderful things that are being done away from school with us. We do still very much want to maintain communication between home and school and I'm sure it will help to support both staff and children if this can be done.

The document, 'What to Expect When?' published by 4Children, is really useful to indicate what expected development across the EYFS.

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf

It has lots of ideas relating to things that could be done to support progress to the 'next stage'. Please do read this with caution however. Children are all different, and stages of development do vary immensely. The last thing we would want to do is to increase pressure and anxiety within family homes.

Finally, I will speak on behalf of all the EYFS team and wish you and your family good health and hopefully many enjoyable and memorable moments with your children. Stay safe and try to have fun.

Andrea Salter

EYFS lead