

11th September 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I would like to thank all the parents, staff and children who have made me feel so welcome at Cold Harbour School. I am aware that there has been an extended period of leadership change which can be very unsettling for the school community, but please be reassured that during this week what I have seen is gorgeous children who are really pleased to be back and staff who are passionate about driving the school forward so that it gets the 'good' grading it deserves. Of course, a school shouldn't be measured by an Ofsted grade alone. It should be reflected in staff who are nurturing and provide a high-quality education for all, children who are flourishing and enjoy their time at school and families who work with the school to ensure their children have the best educational and personal experience. I am very confident this can be achieved. As you can see, I am very much a 'glass half full' person and I look forward to working with everyone this year.

Values Education

Trust, Honesty, Thankfulness, Respect and Faith are our core values. Alongside these, in learning and achieving together we further develop our Christian values; Nurture, Tolerance, Forgiveness and Guidance.

These core values define how we want to behave with each other in our community; help us to resolve any hidden conflicts, remove stresses and give us a firm direction in life. Each month we will be focusing on a value in depth for aspiration, to helping us move towards solutions and away from problems.

This month's value is Nurture where we will be emphasising to the children how we can look after each other to help us grow.



Free School Meals

All children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 can receive school meals at no cost to you. This is a universal entitlement for all infant aged children. In addition, every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed will be eligible for Pupil Premium funding. This is extra money for the school, provided by the government, to pay for targeted support for learning.

Entitlement to Free School Meals for children in school in Year 3 and above is **not** universal. You will need to make a **separate** application and your eligibility will be dependent on the benefits that you receive.

Who is eligible?

You must be in receipt of one of the benefits listed below to be eligible for a Free School Meal for your child/children.

- Income Support
- Employment & Support Allowance – Income related
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (**not Contribution Based JSA**)
- Child Tax Credit only (with a combined family income of less than £16,190 per annum as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) **Please note, anyone receiving Working Tax Credit, regardless of income, will not qualify for free school meals.**
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid four 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 receive)

- National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit

How do I apply?

Please contact us for details of how to apply or go directly to the following link:-

<http://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

School Uniform

The children are looking really smart in their school uniforms. Please may we request that all items of uniform are labelled with your child's name. This is especially important at this time, as we need to ensure that any discarded items are returned quickly and safely to the correct child.



Procedures for symptoms Covid-19

Please find attached with this newsletter the parental flow chart from MK Council, which indicates procedures to follow if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19. If you need further clarification, advice is available from the Department of Education Coronavirus Helpline on 0800 046 8687.

Identified Covid-19 symptoms remain as:-

- A new and persistent cough
- A high temperature of 37.8 and above
- Loss of taste or smell

If your child has any of these symptoms, they must not come to school. Siblings should also remain at home. A test must be booked for the symptomatic child. Children can only return when a negative test has been confirmed for the symptomatic child.

We are aware that we are entering the Autumn season - the usual time for colds and runny noses to take hold. Please make sure your child has tissues in their pocket if this is the case. We will be promoting the NHS "Catch it, bin it, kill it" approach and ensuring high emphasis on hand hygiene as always. The 48 hour absence policy remains for any cases of sickness or diarrhoea.

Internet safety

There has been some very unsavoury content on Tik Tok this week. Please do monitor your child's access to internet sites and note that access to Tik Tok is age 13 and above.

Supporting Children's Mental Health

The following link gives access to a leaflet produced by the Anna Freud Centre to help support your child/ren's mental health.

<https://www.annafreud.org/media/11396/tmh-parent-leaflet-final-web-updated-by-ed-april-2020.pdf>

Finally, it has been lovely seeing all your children again this week and to see teaching and learning going on in all of our classrooms. We are really looking forward to meeting all our new foundation children next week.

Have a great weekend; it looks like we are in for a nice bit of sunshine!

Claire

Miss Claire Britnell
Executive Headteacher