
NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley St Helen's and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

Longhorsley St Helen's
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Whalton C of E Aided Primary
School

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27th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Working from Home

Firstly, just to say a huge thank you to you all for supporting your children with their learning this week. So many of your children have been busy at home on their work packs and lots of them have accessed the classroom on School360 where they have been completing a variety of tasks, including some Commando Joe's missions by the children at Whalton (we are especially loving your Land of Snow creations), and sharing with us what young cooks and chefs they are - tea for one family and baking a cake for another! Please can we reassure you that just because the staff are adding resources and activities on a daily/weekly basis, these are there to support you as and when you wish your children to do them; if the sun is shining, then please enjoy it with them - please do not let anything we send out be a burden to you or your children but please do keep sharing all the fabulous things they are doing and making. All staff have tried to answer all your queries and questions about passwords and use of exercise books (when you do not have access to a printer) and we hope that this has helped. Please remember that we are here to support you and your children during these uncertain times.

Peripatetic Music Tuition

The peripatetic music teachers are preparing work for those children who are learning musical instruments in school. You should be soon receiving information on how to access this work via school email. Please let us know if you don't hear anything and we can investigate. In the meantime, I know that all the teachers would say to the children that frequent practising of their instruments will massively help to accelerate their progress.

In School

In school, we have had two small classes this week with some of our critical workers' children. They have had great fun making rainbow collages, stained glass windows and Easter baskets to name but a few of the art activities. Staff and children have been keeping fit doing the daily challenging Joe Wicks exercises (and many of you at home too!) and accessing the resources and work set on their school 360, as well as getting outside to play football and having a good run around in the beautiful sunshine!

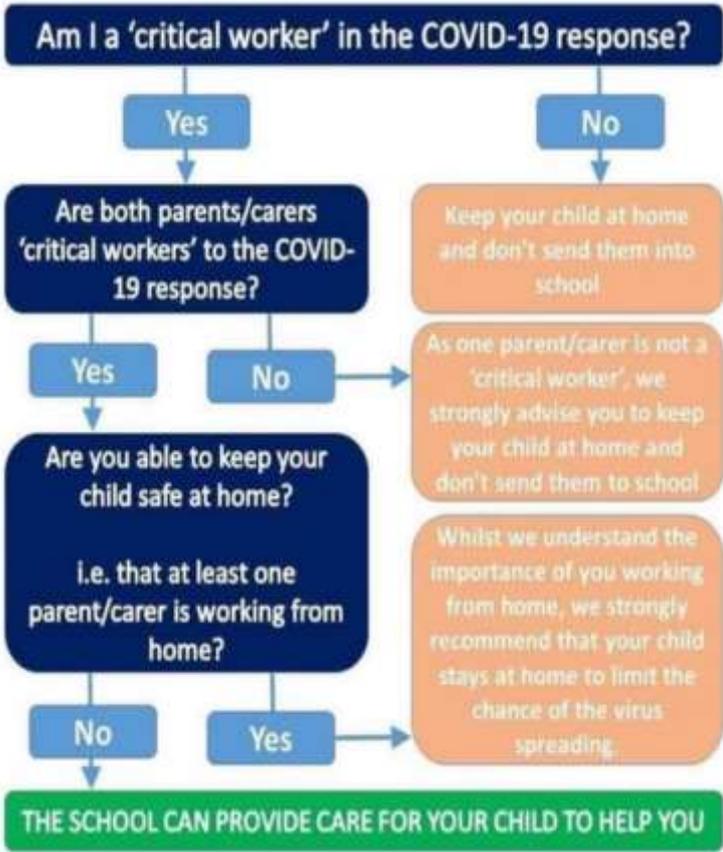


School Community

I cannot thank the staff teams enough for the dedication and commitment when in school, on the rota, for making the children feel so welcome or when working from home and spending time replying to their messages. We are especially grateful to Joyce and Fiona for their hot school lunches in our time of need and to Marlene, Diane and Angela for keeping us safe through their deep cleaning of both schools. Thank you to the parents who drop off or pick up on their way to work for greeting Mrs Elliott and I so warmly in the mornings too; and for keeping Mrs Campbell and Mrs McEwan up to date with changes in shift patterns.

Critical Workers

We will be re-sending out the google forms to all parents after Easter in case circumstances have changed and you need a place for your child on specific days at school. Please keep in mind the latest guidelines; the safest place for your child is at home with you.



Easter Holidays

School is operating under a skeleton staff, based on the childcare needs of our critical workers, during the Easter holidays. For those parents, we look forward to seeing your children on the designated day/s, however, please can we ask that the children come to school with a packed lunch as the school kitchen will be closed.

Easter is such an important part of the Christian calendar and we hope that you will all be able to spend some quality time with your family close to you during these unsettled times.



If you have an urgent query, please do not hesitate to ring Longhorsley on 01670 788316 or e-mail: longhorsleyadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk and we will get back to you.

Kindest regards and stay safe,

Mrs Brannen

