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Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, BEd, NPQH
Head of School: Mr N Lindsay, BA (Hons), NPQH

14 January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Important Whole School Update (0080-20NLI)

- Remote Learning pupil and parent friendly guidance and FAQ links can be found below. Remote Learning Survey will be issue to parents / carers over the coming days
- Keyboards are available on request via Main Reception to support Teams access on games consoles
- Free School Meals – national guidance was issued 13th January 2021. Further details will follow in the next few days
- ‘We are Longfield Daily’ activities are issued via Teams at 11.15am, these are to be completed during ‘Longfield Daily’ time each day. Please encourage pupils to participate
- Welfare support – an extensive range of welfare and wellbeing support can be accessed via the school website
- Year 11 information – letters from the Secretary of State, Gavin Williamson to OFQUAL and their response regarding alternative arrangements for exams in 2021 can be found on the website
- Careers signposting for Post 16 provision

Remote Learning

We are now approaching the end of our second week of Remote Learning; the teaching staff, welfare team and I have been delighted with the positive engagement of pupils with their lessons. As you will know, Heads of Year via our “virtual assemblies” are regularly updating pupils on how well they are working and engaging in the process.

The school has created a user-friendly guidance page to help your child with any areas of Remote Learning they may be struggling with. For example, accessing Teams, downloading Microsoft PPT/Word for free on their device and quick guidance videos which parents / carers may find helpful.

The new, exciting website is constantly being updated as we learn more “new tricks” for Remote Learning.

<https://longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk/remote-learning-guidance/>

The below link is for a FAQ page. Pupils’ questions on Remote Learning can be answered here:

<https://swiftacademies.org.uk/student-faqs/>



Remote Learning Survey

Please look out for a Remote Learning Survey over the next few days; this will help us to collate parent / carer feedback so that we can continue to improve our offer and provide the best remote education for our pupils.

Pupils Working on Consoles e.g. Xbox/PlayStation

Keyboards are available on request for pupils accessing Teams through their Xbox/PlayStation. Please contact staff at Main Reception for more information.

E: enquiries@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk / T: 01325 380815.

Remote Learning Rewards

Home Study Superstar postcards were a feature during the Spring 2020 lockdown. We are currently developing a more exciting rewards package, there will be more information on this in the near future.

Free School Meals

National Guidance was issued on Wednesday 13th January 2021. In the next few days, we will inform you of how we will be moving forward with this.

We Are Longfield Daily

Our exciting 'We Are Longfield Daily' activities continue via Year Group Teams at 11.15am. Pupils receive their daily tasks on the following topics:



1. Standards and Safety with Mr Lindsay
2. Personalised Assemblies - often with Year Leaders
3. Word of the Week
4. Retrieval Tasks
5. Showcase Time

Welfare

Parents / carers and pupils can find an extensive range of information regarding well-being in the 'Welfare' section of the Longfield website. Our Mental Health, E-Safety and Safeguarding blogs provide information, support and signposting. We would also encourage you to follow Longfield Wellbeing on Instagram:

<https://longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk/pupils/welfare>

The Anna Freud Centre have created helpful resources and guidance for parents / carers and young people to support young people's mental health during the coronavirus crisis:

[Coronavirus : Mentally Healthy Schools](#)

Year 11 Information

As you know the examination arrangements for 2021 are yet to be finalised, please use the link below to access the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson's letter to OFQUAL and their response regarding the upcoming consultation period.

<https://swiftacademies.org.uk/covid-19/#usefullinks>

As we have previously stated, Year 11 pupils must continue to access Remote Learning and continue to work to the best of their ability; we will be in touch with you as soon as we know the outcome of the consultation.

Post 16 Options and Careers

Following the move to Remote Learning, we would like to remind parents / carers and pupils of the post 16 and careers guidance and support still available from the school.

- Resource are uploaded to the Careers Microsoft Teams page on a regular basis
- The below link takes you to our Post 16 Option Evening where you will find helpful information from a variety of Post 16 providers who have a wide a range of courses on offer and how to apply for them
[Virtual Post 16 Option Evening | Longfield Academy | Swift Academies](#)
- You can also find helpful careers advice and support on the Swift Academies Careers website
[Careers | Swift Academies | Achieving Excellence with Care](#)
- We would encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram
- The January apprenticeship workshop will no longer take place, Mrs Smith will be contacting pupils who have expressed an interest in following this path to offer them support
- If you have any careers questions or queries please contact the staff at the school reception or email Mr J Raw, Careers Lead jraw@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk or Mrs G Smith, Careers Adviser gillsmith@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk

Finally, although the majority of pupils may not be in the school building at the present time, I am heartened by the enthusiastic and positive way they have embraced Remote Learning. I have been delighted to see the work they are producing, and I look forward to Showcase Time each week.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Lindsay
Head of School